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[WHOLE No. 56.]

## SIEGE OF NEW ORLEANS.

[CONTINUED.]

If the British general expected to terrify his enemy by the discharge of rockets and bombs, and thus to throw him into confusion, and then mount the works, he assuredly reckoned without his host. Those missiles proved almost harmless, and the American backwoodsmen, who, if they had ever heard of a bomb or a rocket, had probably pictured to themselves some terrible instrument of destruction, soon learned, that like another enemy, they were more formidable in appearance than in reality.

Captain Cooke says that this affair, "to soften it off, was called a *reconnaissance*." "Words," Mirabeau told the French Convention, "are things." Still it is difficult to reconcile to common sense the idea, that a sight of General Jackson's works, standing directly in front of the British troops upon a naked plain, was properly purchased by a loss of one hundred and twenty killed and wounded, and by the far more serious loss of moral strength, produced by a distant cannonade of seven hours, and by the sheltered position and inactive state of the British troops. Captain Cooke says, "Indeed, the Americans, seeing the backs of the red coats, were elated accordingly, and were almost inclined to make a *sortie*." Not almost, but altogether; for Colonel Henderson was actually ordered to attack a party of the light troops, which had advanced near the American lines, and marched out for that purpose; but mistaking the nature of his orders, placed himself in a false position, and lost his own life with five of his men.

The British general seemed now to consider heavy battering artillery essential to his success, and the army and navy were zealously engaged in transporting from the fleet the proper ordnance. Their supplies, too, and in fact all their *matériel*, were on board the vessels, more than sixty miles from them, and separated by a shallow arm of the sea, navigable only for boats of light draft of water. It may well be supposed, that the necessary intercommunication was preserved with great labor, and indeed the British accounts present a frightful picture of the difficulties they were compelled to encounter by the shallow water and sand bars of the lake, and by the mud and marshes, and intricate navigation of the Bayous. By the 31st, however, ten eighteen and four twenty-four pound carronades, together with the necessary ammunition, were brought to the British lines.

Sir Edward Packenham occupied a naked defenceless position. He was, in fact, almost in a *cul de sac*; for only one avenue of retreat was open to him, in the event of any disaster which might compel him to retire; and this was over a marshy plain, and down a narrow, intricate channel, where he was liable at any time to be assailed, and to have his movement checked. His means of transportation were inadequate to the conveyance of one half of his force, so that in any attempt to retire, they would have been necessarily separate, and thus liable to be beaten in detachment. He had, besides, no place of *depot* for his stores.

Why, in this situation, he did not secure his position against a *coup de main*, is among the inexplicable circumstances of this strangely conducted expedition. A Roman *Imperator*, in the stern days of the republic, would probably have been thrown from the Tarpeian rock, for this neglect of the first principles of castrametation, and a soldier of the school of Napoleon would have dashed at once upon the enemy, neglecting his own defences, and disregarding theirs. The British general did neither.

Arrangements were now making in the camp of the invaders for an attack upon the American lines. It is stated in the journal of operations, transmitted by Gen-

eral Lambert, that the plan was to breach the American parapet, and silence their batteries, "while the troops were to be moved forward to storm the work, as soon as a practicable breach was effected." In order to execute this plan, three batteries, mounted with heavy cannon, were constructed immediately in front of the American works, and at the distance of about six hundred yards. Besides the guns mounted in the American lines, their defences were seconded by the flank fire of the Louisiana, and by batteries erected on the opposite side of the Mississippi.

The preparations within the British lines, and particularly the noise of working parties on the last night of the year, indicated plainly to their vigilant opponents, that the next day would usher in another struggle. The dawn was obscured by a heavy fog, which shut out the sight of all objects at a few yards distance, and this circumstance, fortunate for the British, enabled them to prosecute their work without interruption, and to take the position assigned to the troops. About eight o'clock, however, the fog began to disappear, and their batteries immediately opened upon the American lines. Their guns were well served and skilfully directed, and the first effort of two of their batteries was directed against the quarters of the American General, which were known to the enemy. These were pierced by more than one hundred balls, bombs, and rockets, and almost demolished. But this uncourteous attempt proved fruitless, for he had repaired, as was his custom upon the first appearance of alarm, to the lines, where he continued during the cannonade.

There is no doubt that at the commencement of this operation the fire of the British was superior to that of the Americans. Their cannoniers were skilful, experienced, and well commanded, and they poured upon their adversaries discharge after discharge, with great rapidity and precision. Few indeed of the patriotic republicans, led by their own zeal to participate in this desperate and doubtful struggle, had ever conceived the existence of such a scene as that which was passing before them. Still, however, they were not found wanting in this hour of trial. Their batteries immediately answered the fire of the British, and gradually gaining the ascendancy, dismounted their guns, killed and disabled the artillery men, and almost demolished the works which had been thrown up. About three o'clock the fire of the British was silenced, and their army retired to their camp.

During this severe cannonade, the whole of the enemy's force was drawn out and stationed in the ditches in the rear of their batteries, ready to advance to the storm of the American entrenchments, as soon as a serious impression should be made upon them. Independently of the loss occasioned to the British by the direct fire from the lines, many casualties were caused by the armed ship and the opposite batteries, which enfiladed and seriously annoyed them. Certainly the immediate theatre of this struggle must have presented a singular spectacle to these troops, many of whom had followed the standard of Wellington in his victorious career from Lisbon to Toulouse. There, the strongest fortresses, constructed with all the skill of modern military science, had opened their gates to these very troops, or had seen them scale the ramparts in the face of the most terrible opposition, and attended with circumstances of horrible atrocity, the details of which no historian can record. But here was a body of undisciplined men, collected suddenly from all the avocations of civil life, without military skill or experience, and whose officers were chosen from themselves, and with no higher qualifications than native courage, strong intellect and genuine patriotism can confer. And these farmers and artisans and merchants and lawyers, amounting to less than one half of the British force, were now posted behind a line of cotton bags partially covered with earth, while the confident invad-

ers were "supine," as General Lambert expresses it, or "lying down," as the Journal of Operations says, in the planters' ditches, waiting for a propitious moment to sally forth, and disperse what Captain Cooke calls General Jackson's "posse comitatus." "Was not this," inquires our author significantly, "enough to sicken the best troops in the world?"

At one moment, however, there was an excitement in the enemy's lines, a note of preparation for the coming onset, whose issue, had it taken place, is beyond our ken. Two caissons were blown up by a rocket, and the accident itself, and the momentary confusion attending it, probably led the British to suppose that some serious disaster had occurred. Their fire was suspended for a brief space, and a movement in their ranks was visible. They also manifested their emotion by three cheers. These were instantly sent back in startling shouts from the American lines, and were accompanied by a general salvo from the artillery. The besiegers resumed their former position, apparently satisfied, that no favorable effect had yet been produced by their fire.

During the progress of these efforts, an attempt was made to turn the left flank of the Americans. A detachment was ordered to penetrate the swamp, and passing the extreme left of the position, to attain, if practicable, the rear. Had this plan succeeded, it is possible, that in the consequent confusion, the assailing columns might have surmounted the entrenchments, and destroyed the American army. But such a manœuvre was too obvious not to engage the attention of General Jackson. He was well aware of the exposed condition of his left flank, and he had therefore adopted every practicable expedient to place it in safety. The breach in the levee had raised the water in the swamp, and had thus diminished the extent of the line of operations. Its defence was committed to General Coffee, and if untarnished honor, chivalrous courage, and the most devoted patriotism give any claims to confidence, this lamented soldier well merited that of his commander. He enjoyed it, and proved himself worthy of it.

This station required the most vigilant and severe attention. It was to be guarded day and night. From the depth of the water, it became necessary to erect a sort of scaffolding of logs and brush, upon which the troops could rest. This was pushed as far into the swamp as practicable, and the underwood cut down for some distance in front, that the riflemen might have timely notice of any advancing foe. The labor and exposure of this particular service were excessive, but they were cheerfully borne by men inured to hardships, and identified with the cause in which they were engaged. Three British officers of engineers undertook to penetrate into this morass, and endeavor to discover some way, by which the position might be turned. While wading through the water, they suddenly came upon the station of three of the practised marksmen, who were scattered through the marsh. They were seated behind a log, and each taking deliberate aim at one of the officers, these were instantly killed.

For a few days subsequent to this period, both parties were busily engaged in their respective preparations for attack and defence, as it was obvious that some decisive event would soon bring the campaign to a close. Reinforcements were received by each of the combatants. Without entering into numerical details, little satisfactory to the general reader, we content ourselves with stating, as the best estimate we have been able to make from the data within our reach, that the British army was finally swelled to about nine thousand men on the left bank of the river, and that the number of combatants in the American army, was, as before stated, four thousand two hundred and sixty-four. The official returns which are annexed to this article, furnish all necessary information on the subject of the defensive force. But the actual strength of the British army has never been publicly made known. The English writers, who have recorded the events of this expedition, and whose works we have met with, deal in vague generalities, and present no credible estimate of the final strength of their army. The different corps which composed it are named

below,\* as given in La Tour's memoir, together with his estimate of the numbers of each, and of the general aggregate. In Bissett's history of the reign of George III., the American force, collected for the defence of New Orleans, is stated at thirty thousand!!! The author of the Narrative of the Campaigns of the British army at Washington, Baltimore and New Orleans, himself a participator in the scenes he describes, after mentioning the conflicting estimates of the American force, varying, as he says, from twenty-three thousand to thirty thousand, chooses "a middle course," and supposes "their whole force to be about twenty-five thousand."

In Baines' History of the Wars of the French Revolution, these exaggerated computations are reduced nearer to the standard of truth. This writer says, that the force on each side, at the battle of the 8th, was about ten thousand men.

From the official returns it will be perceived, that the lowest of these estimates more than doubles the actual number of armed men, who defended the American lines at the final repulse of the British.

Objects, which were thus exaggerated, must have been seen through a magnifying medium. Indeed, no clearer evidence is necessary, that the issue was equally mortifying and unexpected, than these attempts thus to increase the force of the Americans, and proportionably to diminish their claims.

The British force, however, was perfectly armed and supplied, with much labor, it is true, but still well supplied, with all the necessary *materiel* which they required. Their magazines, with the fleet, were filled with whatever was wanted, and these were freely opened to the demands of the army. The expedition had been abundantly prepared from the English arsenals.

On the 3d of January, General Jackson informed the Secretary of War, that no arms had then arrived. They were yet upon the river, having left Pittsburgh the preceding autumn. He adds, "hardly one-third of the Kentucky troops, so long expected, are armed, and the arms they have are not fit for use."

It was lamentable that at this juncture some defect of inferior administration should have left unarmed a large portion of the force assembled at this point from so great a distance, and required by such imperious circumstances. But so it was, and the anxiously expected arms did not arrive till the British were driven discomfited from the attack.

\* List of the several corps of the British army employed in the expedition to New Orleans, as given in the Appendix to La Tour's Historical Memoir.

4th Regt. King's Own, Lt. Col. Fras Brooko,	750	strong
7th do. Royal Fusileers, Lieut. Col. E. Blakeney,	850	"
14th do. Dutchess of York's Own (Light Dragoons) Lieut. Col. C. M. Baker,	350	"
21st do. Royal North Britain Fusileers, Lieut. Col. W. Patterson,	900	"
40th do. Somersctshire, Lt. Col. H. Thorn ton,	1000	"
43d do. Monmouth (Light Infantry,) Lt. Col. Patrickson,	850	"
44th do. East Essex, Lieut. Col. Hon. Thomas Mullen,	750	"
85th do. Buck volunteers (Light Infantry,) Lieut. Col. William Thornton,	680	"
93d do. Highland, Lieut. Col. Robert Dale,	1100	"
95th do. Rifle Corps, Maj. Sam'l. Mitchell,	500	"
1st do. West India, Lieut. Col. C. W. Whitby,	700	"
5th do. West India, Lieut. Col. A. M. K. Hamilton,	700	"
A detachment from the 82d regiment,	350	"
Rocket brigade, artillery, drivers, engineers, sappers and miners,	1500	"
Royal Marines,	1500	"
Sailors from the Fleet,	2000	"

14,450



We shall not stop to dwell upon the other defective arrangements for supplies, particularly of proper clothing, of which the distant militia were almost destitute. Harassing, indeed, were these circumstances to the troops, and perplexing to their leader; but they did not, like the want of arms, vitally affect the operations. Without arms the troops could not fight; but suffering and privation they could endure and overcome. And they did so. This duty came down to them like an inheritance from their revolutionary fathers, and well was it performed.

We are desirous, however, of not being misunderstood. Far be it from us to cast the slightest imputation upon the venerable and patriotic man who then presided over the councils of our country, or upon his associates in this momentous struggle. Nobly, indeed, did they sustain the honor of the country, and rich should be their reward in the public gratitude. But their *surveillance* could not extend to every portion of every region of this vast confederacy, and derangements in the execution of the best concerted plans are every where the necessary consequence of extensive operations.

As we have already stated, the American lines were constructed on the upper bank of an old mill race. The lower side of the race presented a kind of glacis, and was left untouched. The fences in the neighborhood were taken and planted upon the bank, to support the earth, and prevent it from falling into the race. Thus rudely constructed was the parapet. As different portions of the line were committed to different corps, and as the weather was remarkably inclement, there was little symmetry in the work. It was very unequal both in height and thickness, penetrable in some places by the enemy's balls on the 1st of January, and in others twenty feet broad.

With a commendable precaution, two other lines of defence were constructed, one about two miles in rear of the principal position, and the third still nearer to the city. The work upon these was vigorously prosecuted, and they soon assumed a respectable appearance. It was the intention of General Jackson, if compelled to retreat, to fall back in succession to these positions, and there renew the contest. It was a noble resolution thus to determine on transferring their standard from parapet to parapet, yielding, if compelled to yield, to superior numbers and discipline, but still resisting while resistance should be within their power. If executed, it would have been a beautiful illustration of the command of Tydides to the Grecian troops, when compelled to fall back before the Trojan army.

"Α'λλα προς Τρῶας τετραμμενοι αὖεν οπισσω  
Ειχετε."

Their banner would have thus continued a signal of confidence to the troops, and of hope to the devoted city, which now, within plain view, was stimulating one party to exertion by its "rich merchandise," and the other, by all those sympathies and feelings which its precarious condition was so well calculated to awaken.

Should the enemy succeed in gaining his works by escalade, it was the impression of the American General that he could retard their advance with his mounted force, so as to be enabled to retire in safety, and place his troops in the rear of the second entrenchment in time for a vigorous defence.

Behind the second line were stationed all the troops, and they unfortunately amounted to between twelve and fifteen hundred who were unarmed. This arrangement gave the position an appearance of strength, and every such appearance, which could impose upon the enemy, was now, more than ever, necessary to a successful resistance.

There was, indeed, but little opportunity for strategic combinations during the progress of this campaign. The theatre of operations was, from physical causes, necessarily bounded by the visible horizon. The dark nights and the dense fogs, it is true, allowed the work of the spade and the axe to go on with less danger and interruption; but from dawn till twilight, the parties stood

before each other, watching every movement, and equally exposed to observation.

We would not, if we could, cast the slightest unmerited reproach upon the memory of the brave but unfortunate soldier, who conducted this invading expedition. He had many difficulties to encounter, resulting from the face of the country, and from the distance between his line of operations and his naval *depots*. It is obvious that he had not read, or did not heed, the maxim of the great master of modern military science: "*Il ne faut,*" says Napoleon, "*point faire une guerre timide.*" Our article is a narrative, not a *critique*. And it must necessarily be so. The professional reader would not come here for technical details, nor would the general one find any interest in their perusal. We have besides not the time, and we may add, in all sincerity, that we do not feel ourselves able to enter into an analytical investigation of this ill starred irruption. But it is open to the slightest glance, that while the British General was unimpeachably brave, his movements were slow, cautious, and "*timides.*" The vigour of his adversary had produced an impression, that his means of resistance were far greater than in fact they were.

But on the other hand, Sir Edward Paakenham had great advantages over his opponent from the very nature of his command, and from the quality of his troops. He led none but regular forces, in a high state of discipline. His means, both of subsistence and annoyance, required nothing more than laborious transportation, and his cares and exertions were limited to his military duties. He had no one to thwart, to impede, to arraign him.

Far different was the situation of the American commander. He had the same military labors and responsibility as his rival. But he had others, not less perplexing, and which that rival knew not of.

The civil history of this campaign is perhaps not less interesting, certainly not less instructive than the military. At some future day we may endeavour to present it to our readers. To attempt it now, would be to tax their patience beyond any reasonable limits of forbearance. But it is essential to a just appreciation of the true state of affairs, to recollect that the composition of the American army was not favorable to strict subordination—that they were inexperienced, partially unsupplied, collected from very different regions, hastily brought together, and almost all voluntary militia. The population of Louisiana was principally of French descent, and though they behaved nobly during the whole contest, still, in looking back upon circumstances as they were, it is easy to see that the elements of discord were present, and that great firmness and prudence were necessary in combining such materials into one mass.

There were other difficulties, peculiar to that time, and some of them to that place. Disaffection was there, not among many, but still among enough to make the public mind unquiet. The imminence of the danger rendered the most vigorous measures necessary. The theatre of operations and the vicinity of the army converted a large and populous city into a beleaguered camp. Anxiety and alarm were every where prevalent, and each day produced its ten thousand rumours, ever varying, but still upholding the feverish excitement. The institutions of our country are essentially pacific—from their nature and operations suited to a state of peace, and not to all the exigencies of a defensive warfare. We do not recognise the principle, that the laws are ever *silent among arms*, nor in the darkest day of the republic, should its darkest day approach, could we, by any established formula, pass that decree, "*ne quid detrimenti capiat respublica,*" which was heard in Rome when the *Capitol* was in danger; nor authorise any magistrate to perform the functions of a dictator. Once, in the most portentous period of the revolution, and while the Articles of Confederation loosely prescribed the powers and duties of the general government, an authority approaching this was conferred upon him, who never exercised any power except for his country's benefit. What might have been unsafe in any other hands, was, from habit, from principle, from temperament, safe in the hands of Washington.

# SURVEY OF THE COAST. SECOND REPORT OF MR. HASSLER.

[CONTINUED.]

27. The operations before described having lasted until December, at which time we were upon the West Hills station, and the winter setting fully in, with the consequent intransparency of the atmosphere of the seashore, I was forced to abandon my plan, to visit the stations of Wesel and Harrow myself. To obtain, however, a better determination or verification, I directed these two stations to be occupied preliminarily by some of my assistants, though with inferior instruments: that will, therefore, not dispense my observing there in proper time myself. So, Mr. Blunt observed the angles upon Harrow, and Mr. Ferguson those upon Wesel; and upon their results, joined with those of Buttermilk Hill, the present preliminary determinations are grounded, as far as they are dependent on this part.

28. When I had executed the station of Mount Carmel, the extreme eastern one to which I had intended to extend my observations that year, I considered myself authorized to form two parties, to carry on secondary triangulations within the limits of country that my main triangulation embraced, as the triangles could all be sufficiently determined to allow the verifications required in future: keeping, therefore, only two of my assistants, Captain Swift and Lieutenant Bell, with me, Mr. Ferguson was directed, with the assistance of a secondant, to fill up with secondary triangles all the parts included between the main northern triangle-points and Long Island Sound; and Mr. Blunt, with another secondant, was directed in a similar manner for all that related to both shores of Long Island; both equally proceeding from the eastern extremity of our work towards New York.

29. The secondary points thus determined must be sufficiently numerous, and placed in such a manner, as to enable from them to fill up all the details by plane-table operations on land, and by observations for the soundings upon the water. Considerable advance was made in those secondary parts already in the latter part of last fall; and the works have been taken up again this spring early, though the weather of that neighborhood has again proved very unfavorable.

30. Upon Buttermilk and Tushua regular series of azimuth observations with the sun were made, with the two-foot theodolite, by myself; and the latitudes of the most essential stations were observed by my assistants, partly with the eighteen-inch repeating circle, partly with the ten-inch repeating reflecting-circles; by the calculations of this winter these latitudes were all reduced to one collective result by means of the azimuths, and their coincidence has been more satisfactory even than I expected.

31. These reductions, carried through the works of 1817 to the City Hall of New York, the latitude and longitude of which had been determined by entirely different means, gave the point from which the longitudes have been counted, as reduced to Greenwich, there being no other point within the limits of the Survey astronomically determined, nor any fixed point in the United States from which the longitude could be counted.

32. As well in my operations of 1817 as in those of last year, the angles of elevation or depression of the main station-points from one another, have always been observed, except at my two stations upon Long Island, because these will be revisited at a future time. These observations will furnish in time an interesting collection of data upon the elevation of all these points over the level of the sea; but, neither the winter of 1817 to 1818 nor this last, has it been possible, for want of time, to calculate any results; in fact, it is rather more proper to postpone these calculations, until the exact distances are fully determined upon which these results depend; they will, therefore, with more propriety form a part of the calculations of next winter.

33. Since I made, in 1818, my calculations of the elements of the projection that will be the most advantageous for the construction of the maps as most concord-

ant with the results of both the triangulations and the detail surveys, the knowledge of the dimensions and figure of the earth has much improved, and been much more accurately defined. I had therefore to make anew all the theoretical calculations thereto referring, upon the most approved elements, of which the leading data are the ellipticity of the earth, and the mean degree of the whole meridian, that is, its three hundred and sixtieth part. It would, however, be out of place, in the present state of the work, to enter into these nearer details of theory, which will become of great interest hereafter, as the ultimate results of the Coast Survey must furnish one or more of the data for the perfecting of these results themselves; if it shall take its appropriate standing among the works of this nature, it is to be hoped that it will be properly discussed at the end of the work of the main triangulation.

34. It may be here the place to state my reasons for adopting the metre for the unit measure of the whole Survey. 1st. I had a fully authentic metre, made by the Committee of Weights and Measures in Paris; while of any other measure whatsoever, I could only have a copy, more or less accurate. 2d. Notwithstanding older ideas to the contrary, I found positively, in my comparisons made for the weights and measures, that, in a general way, the metres are obtained of greater accuracy and coincidence than the English scales. (See my Report upon Weight and Measure Comparisons.) 3d. By my repeated comparisons of this identical and authentic metre with the scale of Troughton of 82 inches, adopted as English Standard in this country, together with a number of other measures, its ratio to either one of them is sufficiently determined, to enable at any time to present any distance in either one of the measures thus compared: as for instance, to obtain the value in English inches, will need only the addition of the constant logarithm = 1.5952859 to the logarithm of the distance recorded in metres. 4th. In the ultimate general account, it will be proper to give the distances both in metres and in yards, or feet, to ease the utility for the various future detail applications of the work.

35. The connection of the station-points of the triangulation by their differences of latitude and longitude, was calculated upon the same theoretical principles stated above; they have coincided with the results of the latitude observations, that are by their nature entirely independent of the geodetical operations, to such a degree as, notwithstanding all my cares, I did not consider myself authorized to expect; and the reduction to the City Hall of New York showed an equal coincidence with observations made some years ago by Captain Sabine, on the occasion of his pendulum observations.

36. This afforded also an additional proof that the result of the measurement of the base in English Neighborhood, measured in 1817, could be sufficiently relied upon, for the preliminary calculations, as it stood the test of being extended to distances about 160 miles from the same. It confirmed equally the near approximation of the azimuths observed last year.

37. It is, however, evident that my dependence for the ultimate azimuths and latitudes of deciding accuracy, must as yet be referred to future observations, with the superior means, of instruments, &c., that I have in part ordered, and have in part still to contrive; in respect to the longitude, it is too evident how desirable an observatory will be, as no doubt it will be provided in proper time, by special means, independent of the Coast Survey.

38. My attention at the present stage of the work must be directed principally to the measurement of a base-line, with all the means of accuracy that I may be able to dispose of, by means of the apparatus of which I have given the description in my printed papers upon the Coast Survey; the brass parts of the apparatus were put in full good order already during last summer, the wood work is in construction in New York, under the direction of Captain Swift, and I have just now put the double metre bars, which shall determine the absolute length, to their proper standard, by means of the apparatus provided for it, and with the help of my assistant in the weight and measure business



39. In the actual measurement of the base-line, I shall unite all my present assistants, principally because they will all take a great interest in the operation, which is in its kind of a peculiar nature, and not often occurring, wherein every operator will always follow his peculiar ways, according to his situation, and the means at his disposal.

40. As soon as the result of the base-line is ascertained, which will require some time and considerable calculation, the result will be applied to the calculation of all the triangles, and the reductions to the geographical positions will be repeated with this new element. Then a projection of the points, upon the scale of the fifty thousandth part, will be made upon papers, distributed over the extent of the work, in such parts as will be best appropriated to the filling up of the detail surveys, by the plane-table, and the insertion of the soundings, in which works the most of my assistants will then be distributed, while I shall proceed again in the main triangulation.

41. During the execution of these works I hope that the instruments, ordered of Mr. Troughton, in London, will arrive in this country, at least if he can execute the promises given to that effect; I hope, therefore, to be able to avail myself of the new large instruments for the continuation of my work in the main triangles, the determination of azimuths and latitudes, and all the more delicate observations, upon properly selected, favorable stations. The two-foot theodolite, that I have used last summer, I shall then propose to send to Mr. Troughton, to have it again put in a proper serviceable state, for that accuracy of which it is susceptible, when in good order.

42. At the same time with the distribution of the detail surveys upon hand, I should like to put in activity two parties of naval gentlemen, for ascertaining the soundings in the neighborhood of the same parts that the detail surveys would embrace, as they would probably sometimes work in conjunction with one another; they would embrace a great part of Long Island Sound, and part of the south shore of Long Island. This, however, will require to take some arrangements previously, in relation to the vessels, which it will be necessary to employ in it. Lieutenant Bell of the Navy, who has been one of my assistants last summer, will take the direction of at least one of these expeditions, as his acquaintance with the locality will of course assist him much in the proper execution of this task.

43. I join to this report skeleton-maps of the triangulations that have been executed hitherto, containing all the main triangles that I executed, and so much of the secondary triangles, of the two separate parties, as have been communicated to me until now. The distances in numbers would be of no interest in this report, and belong only to a final report upon the scientific part of the work; it is at no rate proper to mention any, before the calculations have been grounded upon a final base, measured as above stated. These maps present four sheets upon the scale of the one hundred thousandth part, which is that upon which it will about be proper to execute the detail maps, for publication; the whole system of the operations, as far as hitherto executed, will become evident by them. It appeared to me to ease the general insight into the bearing of the work, to add a fifth sheet, upon the half scale of the others, that will present the general view of the whole work; the easier reference to the locality of the triangulation will be assisted by the tracing, only in pencil, of the approximate outlines of the coast, for the survey of which the triangles contain the elements. The projections are made upon the principles above stated, and will present no deviation for the filling up to the minutest details, when executed upon the scale of one five thousandth, in which it is proper to execute the main original copy of the Government.

44. It is proper that all the maps should be drawn upon a proportional decimal fraction of the real dimensions; there is a great advantage in being able to ascertain by the single measurement, in any length measure whatsoever, the real distances desired; this can only be ob-

tained by such a system of scales, which therefore also is the only one adopted in the present time. The scales of so much in inches, or any other small measure, per mile, giving altogether an irregular proportion, are very bad, and therefore have been entirely abandoned in the new maps.

45. It is proper to add here some general remarks, upon the character which it is necessary to give to the work of the Coast Survey; its general bearing for the benefit of the country at large; and the influence which its proper execution shall have upon the improvement of the practical mathematical sciences, that are so necessary in our country; and the standing of the Officers of the Army and Navy, to whose departments works of this nature, or requiring similar knowledge, are so often referred; though I have already touched this subject upon other occasions.

46. The Survey of the Coast must evidently, merely as such already, extend land inwards, at any place, until to the ridges of hills or mountains that border the valleys emptying their waters into the sea, or the large bays and rivers; it must present the localities of all the passages and gorges that lead to these valleys, &c. &c., because it must contain all that is needed for the proper defence of the coast in case of any attack whatsoever, just as much, as the outlines of the coast and the soundings; because, as these furnish the guide to the navigation, so the others are the elements upon which the directions for a proper defence of the country, in case of need, must be grounded; and all these elements must be so detailed, and present such a full and self-explaining picture of the country, that, with the map before the eye, the military operations may be properly judged and guided in the Cabinet. It is therefore also habitual to join for each district a statistical statement of its natural means and resources; it is as desirable to have these accounts of the land part as those upon the currents in the naval part of the work.

47. This work must besides furnish the elements of any other survey that may be desired for any public aim whatsoever, either within or in the neighborhood of its extent; its accuracy, if properly executed, and its wide range, render it peculiarly fit to become a standard to which all other surveys may and even shall be attached. Thereby will be gradually obtained the necessary accurate data for any public undertaking of general utility to the country. This feature of the work was felt already in 1817, when the Governor of New Jersey proposed to unite with it the survey of a map of that state; but which was lost by the delay of the decision of the Treasury Department, where I had proposed to accede to the request. It appears equally felt now, by the proposition of the State of Maryland, for a similar junction of the map of that state, which has been very properly acceded to; and no doubt similar occasions will increase in the same proportion as the general improvement of the country advances, and the proper character of the work of the Survey of the Coast becomes established; this is another proof of the propriety of the measure that I took at all times properly to secure the station-points for future use.

48. The character of a work of the nature of the Coast Survey is essentially scientific; unless this character be impressed upon it to the evidence of the public capable to judge of it, neither credit nor confidence will be given to it; it is in fact worse than useless, because it increases the doubts of the cautious and intelligent seaman, and its defects mislead the ignorant who trusts to it:—plans going merely upon what is so wrongfully called sufficient accuracy are inadmissible, and would prove highly expensive. The economy in the work consists in the certainty of producing the most accurate results.

49. In the execution of the laws in any country, and in a new country in particular, it appears to me to be a duty to take all possible advantage of it to promote as much as possible the general benefit of the nation, and especially its scientific improvement, wherever there may be an occasion presented for it, and that upon a liberal scale; because its benefits are always far more extensive than what shows itself at the first outset. I am

authorized to this assertion, in the present case, by the approbation which my mode of treating the Coast Survey with these views has caused me to find in the most enlightened men of the country, and even abroad, as testified among others by late President Jefferson himself, who was the author of the original law, and by the many other distinguished citizens. We have besides before us the well known examples of almost all European countries, who have derived valuable benefits of various kinds from the proper execution of similar works in a scientific form.

50. With these views also I found it proper to collect a valuable library of the best works in those parts of mathematics and natural philosophy that are either directly bearing upon the work itself, or more or less connected with its accessory or influencing branches; by which my assistants may properly improve their scientific standing, and become the more useful to the country in future. It will also be proper to add to the work, as soon as it is in a proper train, such scientific experiments or observations as relate to the pendulum, the magnetic attraction, the tides, refraction, and other similar subjects, which are always connected with such works, when properly scientifically treated. I could as yet not do more in this than to cause the magnetic bearing to be observed upon the main stations, merely to determine the declination of the needle at the places and time; but for any other observations nothing is as yet properly provided, nor in fact was there time at disposition for it.

51. By the nature of the services that the navy and the army are engaged to render to the country—these two classes of citizens, that are always of considerable influence in any country, deserve peculiarly, though not to the exclusion of other citizens, to be quoted here in connection with this work. Such officers in either of these services as have applied to the study of the higher branches of their profession, of which mathematics form the foundation, will find in the work of the Coast Survey an occasion of improvement, as well as of gratification for their good dispositions; therefore preference is naturally to be given to those who, with a good foundation in theory, have been successful in the career of practical applications of mathematics, in topographical surveying, drawing, and particularly observing and generally in making geodetical and astronomical observations for actual use. Only such officers can reap some benefit for their individual improvement, or be of any service in the work, because this utility must be reciprocal if success shall attend on either side; the officers or individuals who, joining the work without sufficient knowledge, and even practical ability, cannot reap any benefit from following it, and of course they are also entirely useless for the work, and the Coast Survey would be improperly laden with them.

52. The success of those officers, that have in the work both given and received satisfaction, will invite others to acquire the qualifications indispensably required to become serviceable, and thereby to enter the work; but the work itself cannot be the school for him who is too far behind to be of some actual service in it; the distance to be gone through is too great for him, and the functions of those actually engaged in some part of the work are too constant, and too fully occupying them, that he might be taught, and schooled, separately who brings not knowledge enough to the work to see himself what he can do, as well in application of his actual acquirements, as in advance of them. All this applies, of course, equally to the assistants from any rank whatever.

53. To all this it is still necessary to add, that habits of assiduity, and devotion to a scientific object, with friendly and open dispositions, without any pretension, are equally indispensable moral qualifications, to which it is necessary to attend, in the selection of the assistants in this work, as much as to their intellectual qualifications and acquirements. For there can, by nature, not be any control upon any observation entrusted to an assistant, or over the assistance rendered in an observation, except the moral strength of confidence; orders from superiors, fear of consequences, and all considerations of that kind, cannot have the slightest power; the

morality and ability of the observer at the very moment decides what no power whatever can decide. And this is equally applicable to any chief, or assistant whosoever, and of whatever grade he may be in the work.

54. In thus exposing the principles that must guide in the selection of the assistants for this work, and which shall, therefore, ever guide me in the proposition of any assistant, of any rank or class whatever, I give the pledge, that I shall always be guided by perfect impartiality as to the personal, though I may propose persons of different qualifications, with the view of their different employments; the moral principle which must guide in all such cases, is simply, that every one must see before him an aim for his inclination or ambition, to which he will apply his exertions honestly, the result of which will be useful to the work. With these principles, I hope to be as successful in my choice as the general chances of human affairs will admit, and to be approved in my selections; therefore to obtain from the civil, naval, or military rank, always such assistants as will act with pleasure and satisfaction, and therefore do honor to the work and to themselves, thence reflect credit upon our country and nation; convinced, as they must be, that they act before the whole civilized world—because the history of such works is always minutely known to every well-informed man.

55. I can, therefore, also fully rely upon the concurrence of the Department, under which the work is placed, as well in the aim as in the means to reach it successfully. This success must be one of its greatest aims, upon the consideration of usefulness as well as upon that of its high credit.

F. R. HASSLER,

Washington City, May 17th, 1834.

**PAKESWITSCH, THE CONQUEROR OF WARSAW.**—We read in the *Gazette de Augsborg* of the 18th of October, that a General who enjoys a high military reputation is subject, when travelling in a carriage, to such excesses of fear, that whenever it is necessary to cross a wooden bridge situated near the chateau where he is staying, he always caused it to be carefully examined beforehand, to be sure of its solidity. It is also said, having one day perceived, at a great distance, a sportsman who was levelling his fowling piece at some game, he caused him in the most imperative manner to desist from firing. Letters from Silesia inform us that this cautious General is the famous Paskewitsch. The measures which he took for his preservation while at Warsaw were not less remarkable. He always caused a guard of soldiers to be placed at the corner of every street; he never stirred out without being preceded and surrounded by an escort of Baskirs, and invariably passed through the city at full gallop.

Whenever fire happens, however violent it may be, he has prohibited the tocsin from being rung or the *generale* from being beaten, until he has given permission, and never grants it even then until he has retired into the faubourg of Prague, and placed the waters of the Vistula between himself and danger. From this cause serious evil arises, assistance comes so late, that whole masses of buildings become a prey to the flames. It is doubtless a consolation, though a slight one, to an oppressed people, to see the power of conscience over its oppressors, to witness this incessant fear of punishment which they have too justly deserved. Fear is the natural inheritance of the oppressors of Poland, and we should doubt in Providence were their days not delivered over to fear and their nights to remorse.—*Bon Sens*.

**GEN. WILLIAM NORTH**, a veteran of the revolution, died in the city of New York, on the 10th inst., at the advanced age of 83. Gen. N. has filled many important public stations with honor to himself and advantage to his country. He was for many years a member of the Assembly of that State, Speaker of the House, and Senator in Congress. He is believed to have been the only survivor of the revolution of the same rank.



WASHINGTON CITY;  
THURSDAY,.....JANUARY 28, 1836.

Much credit is due to the Subsistence Department of the Army, for the foresight and promptitude recently exhibited. Anticipating, from the information derived from various sources, the hostile disposition of the Seminole Indians, which has since been so unfortunately realised, orders were given to have a large supply of provisions, consisting of pork, bacon, flour and hard bread, forwarded to Florida. These provisions were shipped from New York in December, and must ere this have arrived at their destination, and have proved an acceptable relief, not to our troops only, but to the inhabitants who are in danger of suffering from want.

**TROPHIES IN CHELSEA HOPITAL.**—A London paper of November 7, contains a list of trophies recently presented to this institution by "His Most Gracious Majesty." They are principally flags, taken from the French, Dutch, Spaniards, Prussians, and Americans. Among those which formerly belonged to us, we find mentioned:

"An American flag—when taken uncertain, but probably in the first war."

"American national flag of the 4th regiment, taken on the frontiers of Canada."

"An American national color of the 2d regiment of the line, taken by Gen. Brock on the frontier."

"An American flag"—of the same kind as the first mentioned above.

"The regimental color of the 4th American regiment."

"An American flag, taken by the 85th on the left bank of the Mississippi."

"An American flag, taken in the first war, probably at Boston."

"American regimental flag of the 2d regiment."

We can furnish a much longer list of trophies that are scrupulously preserved in the public offices at Washington, and as soon as we can procure a list of them we will publish it.

We understand that Captain Gallagher, Commandant of the Navy Yard, has reported that the Frigate Columbia will be ready for launching on Tuesday next, the 2d February.

Captain W. C. Ezron arrived at Pensacola, on the 9th inst., to assume the command of the Navy Yard at that place, and entered on his duties the next day.

Revenue cutter Jefferson, Capt. Jackson, sailed on the 19th inst. from Charleston, S. C., for St. Augustine.

The Revenue Cutter Dallas was to have left New Orleans on the 11th inst. for St. Marks and Tampa Bay, to assist in the protection of the citizens.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—"Subaltern" is received and shall appear next week. The interrogatory of "Junius" shall be answered; the other portion of his communication is inadmissible. "The Lost Sailor" is a repetition of the same story, that has often been told, with more or less variation. We are, however, indebted to the writer for the good intention exhibited in furnishing the sketch.

The British Brig of war Pantaloon, Captain Corry, arrived at Norfolk, on Saturday last, in 29 days from Falmouth, (England) with despatches for the British Chargé d' Affaires at Washington.

After coming to anchor, the Pantaloon fired a salute, which was returned from the flag ship Java.

It is conjectured that the despatches relate to an offer of mediation on the part of England, to adjust our present difficulties with France.

#### SEMINOLE WAR.

Since our last paper, we have received painful news from the seat of war in Florida. A whole detachment, consisting of 100 men and 8 officers, has been cut off, on the march from Tampa Bay to Fort King, on the 28th December, and of the whole number but three escaped, and those wounded.

From the official report of Major F. S. Belton, of the 2d Artillery, the commanding officer at Tampa Bay, to the Adjutant General, and dated on the 1st January, we gather the following particulars of the sad catastrophe:

"On the 29th, in the afternoon, a man of my company, John Thomas, and temporarily transferred to C Company, 2d Artillery, came in, and yesterday Pr. Ransom Clark, of same company, with four wounds, very severe, and stated that an action took place on the 28th, commencing about ten o'clock; in which every officer fell, and nearly every man. The command entrenched every night, and about four miles from the halt were attacked, and received at least fifteen rounds before an Indian was seen. Major Dade and his horse were both killed on the first onset, and the interpreter "Louis." Lt. Mudge, 3d Artillery, received his mortal wound the first fire, and afterwards received several other wounds. Lt. Basinger, 3d Artillery, was not wounded till after the second attack; and at the latter part of that, he was wounded several times before he was tomahawked.

"Captain Gardiner, 2d Artillery, was not wounded until the second attack, and the last part of it. Mr. Basinger, after Captain Gardiner was killed, remarked, "I am the only officer left, and boys we will do the best we can." Lt. Keais, 3d Artillery, had both arms broken the first shot, was unable to act; and was tomahawked, the latter part of the second attack, by a negro. Lt. Henderson\* had his left arm broken the first fire, and after that with a musket fired at least thirty or forty shot. Dr. Gatlin was not killed until after the second attack, nor was he wounded; he placed himself behind the breast-work, and with double-barrelled guns, said, "he had four barrels for them." Captain Fraser fell early in the action with the advanced guard; as a man of his company, (B. 3d Artillery,) who came in this morning wounded, reports.

"On the attack they were in column of route; and after receiving a heavy fire, from the unseen enemy, they then rose up in such a swarm, that the ground, covered, as was thought by the Light Infantry extension, showed the Indians between the files. Muskets were clubbed, knives and bayonets used, and parties clinched. In the second attack, our own men's muskets, from the dead and wounded, were used against them; a cross fire cut down a succession of artillerymen at the fence, from which forty-nine rounds were fired—the gun carriages were burnt, and the guns sunk in a pond. A war dance was held on the ground—many negroes were in the field, but no scalps were taken by the Indians, but the negroes, with hellish cruelty, pierced the throats of all, whose loud cries and groans showed the power of life to be yet strong. The survivors were preserved by imitating death, excepting Thomas, who was partly stifled, and bought his life for six dollars, and in his enemy

\*There are two officers, named Henderson, belonging to the 2d artillery: the one killed is Lieut. R. H.—Ed

recognized an Indian whose axe he had helved a few days before at his post. About one hundred Indians were well mounted, naked, and painted. The last man who came in brought a note from Captain Fraser, addressed to Major Mountfort, which was fastened in a cleft stick and stuck in a creek, dated, as is supposed, on the 27th, stating that they were beset every night and pushing on."

Lieut. B. Alvord, of Major Dade's company, which was left behind at Fort Brooke, writes to Lieut. R. C. Buchanan, the adjutant of the 4th Infantry, at New Orleans:—

"Maj. Dade took command of this detachment under circumstances which reflect upon him the highest honor. Capt. F. S. Belton, of the 2d Artillery commands here. General Clinch had ordered the commanding officer at this post to detach there two companies on their arrival. They arrived several weeks since, but being very weak and the other companies ordered not having arrived, the accounts received at this time, of the hostile intentions of the Indians, were such as to induce Capt. B. to postpone the march. On the arrival of our company from Key West, the two companies were strengthened from the whole command so as to make them 100 strong. Mrs. Gardiner was exceedingly ill and it was supposed that if her husband left, she would not live. Nevertheless Capt. Gardiner (who was to command the detachment) prepared to go and at reveille on the morning of the 23d he mounted his horse in front of the detachment which was about to start. Maj. Dade made a proposition to the commanding officer to take Capt. G's place on account of the situation of Mrs. G. The proposition was accepted and the command commenced its march. Before they proceeded many miles Capt. G. ascertained that the U. S. Schooner Motto was about to sail for Key West, for the purpose of bringing two twelve pounders from that post, ammunition, &c. His children with their grandfather were already there and he concluded to send Mrs. G. to Key West in the Motto, and thus gratify his earnest desire to go with his company; (and on joining his company the relation in which he stood to Maj. Dade of course induced him not to demur to his continuing in command and proceeding to Fort King)—they took along a six pounder from the belief that it would produce a panic among the savages. But they seemed to have assembled in such numbers as to render the stout defence of the unfortunate troops quite unavailing. One hundred of the Indians are said to have been mounted. This accounts for the suddenness and system of the attack. Whilst I am writing I have just learnt of the arrival of another soldier very badly wounded who has made his way from this bloody field. He confirms every portion of the above account. His name is Clark, a private of [B] comp. 2d arty. and the same man that escaped from the boat when Lieut. Chandler was drowned in Mobile bay.

"A very strong little defence of pickets and admirably flanked by two Block Houses was completed here some days since. There are five companies here. Maj. Zantzinger's (H) Capt. Belton's (B) Maj. Montfort's (G) and Capt. Lowd's (commanded by Lieut. Grayson) (A) of 2d Artillery and Maj. Dade's company now commanded by myself and of the 4th Infantry. If the Indians in their triumph should attack us we are well prepared.

"The officers here are Capt. Belton, Lieuts. Grayson, McKenzie, Casey, (A. A. Q. M.) Legate, Morgan, Dr. Heskell, and Reynolds, Maj. Mountfort, Lt. J. H. Allen, Alvord."

Lieut. J. B. Grayson, of the 2d Arty. in command of Captain Lowd's company, writes to Col. Twiggs, at New Orleans:

"A wounded soldier escaped by bribing an Indian, and arrived here at four o'clock to-day. Maj. Dade, Capt. Fraser, Lts. Basinger and Mudge were killed; Lt. Keais had both arms shattered to pieces; Lieut. Henderson had his arm broken; Doctor Gatlin is supposed dead, as he

was not seen after the first onset, and Capt. Gardiner was not shot or wounded when the man left the ground, owing, doubtless, to his having dressed himself previously as a soldier. The woods were lined with mounted warriors, they commenced the attack at eight o'clock yesterday morning, fought one hour, then retired to replenish their ammunition, renewed the attack; and during the interval Capt. Gardiner cut down trees and made a breast work, placed fresh men at the twelve pounder, but the Indians picked them off, just as fast as the posts were supplied with fresh men. When the soldier left the ground, he says that there were not more than ten men, and some of them wounded. Major Mountfort and myself were to have left to-morrow morning for Fort King, and we should doubtless have shared the same fate, but the commanding officer, Capt. Belton, has decided to strengthen his position by keeping us. We are very strong behind a picket, but our ammunition is, virtually speaking, nothing; and some of the hostile warriors are known to have fifty kegs of rifle powder. That we shall be attacked is considered almost certain.

"Poor Mrs. Basinger is with Mr. Haskill, and is nearly beside herself. the death of her husband has not yet been communicated to her.

"We have strengthened our work very much in the last two days, as we have made a lunetto, which gives us a flank fire. A short time before Fraser left, the work put up was called Fraser's redoubt.

"Major Mountfort was under orders to leave the day I arrived here; but Major Dade had got so far ahead, that Major M. could not have overtaken. I was to follow Major M., and the consequence would have been that Mountfort's company and my own would have shared the sad fate of those poor fellows who went before us."

On hearing this news. Col. Twiggs, of the 4th Infy. U. S. army, chartered the steamboat Merchant, and started with four companies of troops from New Orleans to Tampa bay.

In connection with this subject, we present the following extract of a letter, with which we have been favored:

*Extract of a letter from Florida, dated Jan. 5th, 1836.*

"We are now in a state of actual war with the Seminole Indians. You are, no doubt, already apprized of the events which have occurred in this quarter—of the massacre of Mr. Thompson, our Indian Agent, and poor Lieut. Constantine Smith: and I suppose the account of General CLINCH's battle on the 30th has all reached you. CLINCH is a gallant and most excellent officer. I have no doubt but that he will conduct the campaign with ability and proper discretion. He wants, and needs, more force. We are miserably deficient in platoon officers. Would you believe, that several of our companies have each, but one commissioned officer serving with it? The company led by the gallant Lieut. CAMBELL GRAHAM, of the artillery, was left without an officer in the recent action, after his second and severe wound; the command of it, then devolved on the Sergeant. Other companies were in the like destitute situation. Capt. GRAHAM, (a brother,) of the Infantry, who was also severely wounded, was the only officer serving with his company!

"I trust that Gov. CASS, and General MACOMB, will now look to the proper interest of the service, and that they will no longer permit so many officers to remain from their Regiments—some of whom are employed, in a way, which has about as much affinity to our Army duties, as the construction of a turnpike, or the vocation of the map-maker in the General Post Office;—or, the draftsman, who sits in the Land Office.

"We, who are performing our proper, though arduous duties with the troops, feel the hardships of this partial and ruinous system, in reference to the true interests of the military service, the more severely, because double, nay treble duty thereby devolves upon us."

"Col. CRANE arrived some ten days since—he is an excellent and valuable officer, and now the only field officer of artillery in Florida. The gallant



FANNING has plucked another laurel from the banks of the *Wythlacoochee*, to deck the wreath he won in 1814, and which is still kept fresh by the balmy spray of the *Niagara*.

"Where is our excellent friend, Major Hieleman? he has been looked for in this quarter for some time.

"You may expect to hear from me very soon—and you shall, if life be spared, and time and chance offer.

"Depend upon it, we shall have some fighting, before these misguided Indians can be induced to comply with the terms of the Treaty."

The British Consul at New York, J. Buchanan, Esq., has returned his most grateful thanks in the papers of that city, to Captain Oliver, of the ship *Tiber*, for bringing into port four British seamen, the only survivors of seventeen souls, on board the brig *Edgar*, bound from Quebec to Liverpool.

#### ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Jan. 20—Major J. Plympton, 5th Inf.	at Gadsby's.
21—Lt. T. B. Whelan, Dr. goons,	Brown's.
22—Gen. T. S. Jesup, Qr. Mr. Gen.	Fuller's.
Capt. T. Childs, 3d Arty.	Alexandria.
Capt. A. Mordecai, Ordnance,	Gadsby's.
Dr. J. J. B. Wright,	do
24—Lt. S. B. Dusenbery, 4th Arty.	Fuller's.
Capt. W. H. Chase, Engrs.	Gadsby's.

#### PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 16—Per Brig *Moses*, from New York, Lieut. J. R. B. Gardenier, of the army.

Jan. 18—Per schr. *S. S. Mills*, from St. Augustine, Major J. S. Lytle, of the army.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21—Per steamboat *W. Gibbons*, from Charleston, Col. A. C. W. Fanning, of the army.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

##### THE ARMY—OFFICERS' MESSES.

###### No. II.

An association of officers in a mess is almost as necessary to the public interest as it is indispensable to personal convenience; for in proportion as their military duties require uniformity and punctuality, must their private engagements be marked by system and dispatch. Were this not the case, had each officer his own hour to dine, were he his own commissary and his own steward, each officer making drafts on his time and attention, his very necessities would be continually urged as excuses for daily professional delinquencies. A well regulated mess establishment, on the contrary, affords him facilities in the discharge of his duties by promoting his bodily comfort and relieving him from mental anxiety—wholesome fare appropriately cooked contributing to his health, and the foresight of the caterer divesting him of all concern for "the morrow." The sound of "roast beef" takes him to dinner, as "the assembly" takes him to "the parade," and meal hours thus enter as essentially into the regimental economy or internal police as the hour for guard mounting or that for tattoo. On the score of expense too, the public interest is consulted by mess establishments. The Government by its present General Regulations seems to admit the necessity of, and obligation to make to officers, certain allowances for culinary purposes—such as fuel, kitchens, and means of transportation for cooking utensils, &c. Now, the same means and facilities, which would be ample for twenty officers in a mess, would no more than suffice for one, should each live separately; consequently those allowances which in the former case are comparatively trifling would in the latter prove a burthensome tax. For public considerations like these, viz: the facilities they afford for the prompt discharge of military duties, and the curtailment of expense they promote, it is evident that messes of officers in every service but our own are under the fostering care and control of Government. In our service they are only *recognised*. They may or may not exist at the option of the officers. This is not suffi-

cient. The interests of the army require that they should exist, and Government should both assist and, to a certain degree, control them. Without such aid private contributions are not sufficient, and without such control the public bounty might be abused. The allowance of fuel and quarters is not alone adequate to the maintenance of a mess—the Government should grant *pecuniary* assistance, for the procurement of furniture, cooking utensils, and whatsoever is of a permanent or fixed character. The peculiar distribution of our troops, and the constant change of stations of the officers consequent to such distribution, render it utterly impossible that an officer should contribute to the purchase of mess furniture &c. at every post at which he may be stationed. \* Indeed, the inability to do so, causes the officers of the Army of the United States generally to live in a meaner style than probably those of any nation in the world. In how many instances in our service are officers supplied with their meals by laundresses or camp women; or, if they have the semblance of a mess, how frequently do tin cups constitute their only plate, and clothless pine tables almost their only furniture? Officers of artillery can especially well answer these questions. But, when we add to these frequent assessments for the purchase of furniture &c., the expense growing out of the necessary entertainment of the many visitors whose curiosity or duties take them to military posts, it will be seen that a member of a military mess in our service is subject to no inconsiderable tax, and that too without being able to live in many instances even decently. We alluded to this latter source of expense in our preceding number on the subject of *double rations*, wherein we contended that said expense is borne usually by messes of single officers, and not by commanders of separate posts who are the recipients of public means to defray such expenses. This declaration we repeat, and on its truth base one of the claims of officers' messes to Governmental patronage. In our former number we stated some of the circumstances which shield commanding officers from the expense of entertaining visitors, and here we will add, that there is a hospitality peculiar to military messes which renders them constantly exposed to such taxation. Not only the acquaintances of officers, but strangers, find a seat and a welcome at a mess table who would find them no where else. Indeed, it is in the very nature of things that strangers should prefer trespassing on the hospitality of an association of single men, to intruding on the economy and privacy of a family, or even of a single individual if he be living alone. But few commanding officers, however, are single men, and they, generally speaking, are members of the mess—their guests are the guests of the mess, their *double rations* are their own. In fact, we have heard of a *married* Commandant who being nominally a member of a mess, but living separately with his family, was in the habit of taking his visitors to the mess table for entertainment; and in connection with another we have heard this anecdote, going to show that the nice taste or good appetite of other than its members may also tend to swell the expenses of a mess. A Pay Master on an official visit to a military post was invited by a member to dine with the mess; the former politely declined, remarking that he felt it his duty to prefer the civilities of the Commandant who doubtless would extend them to him. The officer in a whisper rejoined, "the Major has an economical help mate, they have but two meals a day, and that which they call *dinner*, you and spinster ladies would term *tea*; they are remarkable, however, for the excellence of their pumpkin pie—but adieu?" Taking the Pay Master's hand, "we have nothing to-day, I believe, but a saddle of venison and a wild turkey"—"Stay," said the man of money, "*dinner* before *tea* always; I will dine with you, my friend, first, and pay my respects to the Major afterwards." Again, if an Indian

\* The writer of this article in the course of about four months belonged to three different messes, two of which cost him \$20 each for furniture. In one of these he remained about a fortnight only, and his contributions in both cases were a dead loss to him.

agent, trader, or army contractor, arrives at a frontier post, having no acquaintance with any officer attached to it, at whose door will he knock for dinner—at that of the Commandant, or that of the mess house? Those officers can answer who have been crowded from their seats by the presence at table of such visitors. Such, indeed, had been the expense, to say nothing of the inconvenience, at some of the western posts, in entertaining strangers, that it was found necessary to charge them for their fare. This measure, it is true, removes the pecuniary tax, but converts the privacy and decorum of a mess into the publicity and disorder of a common eating house. We might enlarge on this point, but we think enough has been said to show that messes of officers are, and of necessity must be, peculiarly liable to the expenses, to defray which *double rations* are now allowed the commanders of separate posts. That consideration with the fact that the frequent changes of station, caused by the distribution of our army forces officers of the same regiment into more messes than one, gives those messes, we conceive, an equitable claim to the liberality of Government, while the latter has a sufficient motive to grant its aid in the facilities which, we have endeavored to show, a mess establishment affords to officers for a prompt performance of their military duties.

We will now proceed to the consideration of a plan by which such aid may be afforded with the least expense to the Treasury, and with as much liberality and equity towards messes as the wide distribution of the troops will probably allow. This distribution, we are aware, presents many obstacles to an equitable application of Governmental aid. The integral parts of the same regiment are frequently widely dispersed, and changes of station of officers consequent thereto cause the circumstances of messes to change as often. These difficulties, however, are not insurmountable, if it is only borne in mind, that it is not intended that Government should support messes, but that it should contribute to their support, and consequently that its bounty in one case is not to be condemned as inadequate or unequal because, under fortuitous circumstances, it may happen to be more liberal in another case.

The proposition we will now submit embraces three points, viz:

1st—The withdrawal from certain officers of the allowance of *double rations*.

2d—Every military post shall be supplied with certain articles of mess furniture, &c.

3d—A yearly allowance to the Colonel of a Regiment for the messes of his regiment, on account of expenses of visitors to military garrisons.

We propose then, first, that the law allowing additional rations to commanders of separate posts should be so amended as to grant its benefits in the way hereinafter suggested to messes of officers instead of to said commanders. Agreeably to the last army register, and having reference to the staff officers at Washington who receive *double rations*, there are now in the enjoyment of that allowance something like the following number of officers, viz:

\* Colonels 14—Rations of each per year \$438—total per year \$6132

Lt. Cols.	9	do.	do.	do.	365	"	3285
Majors	6	do.	do.	do.	222	"	2628
Captains	20	do.	do.	do.	292	"	7592
Lieuts.	8	do.	do.	do.	292	"	876

Aggregate \$20,513

This sum of \$20,512, annually withheld from its present uses, or a part thereof, we would apply to the objects named in the 2d and 3d parts of our proposition.

\* This statement, we know, is not entirely accurate in reference to the number and rank of the officers in command. In the aggregate, we believe, however, the number of officers, and the cost of the double rations, are stated far within bounds. Whenever we have doubted whether a Brevet officer was in the enjoyment of his brevet allowances, we have accorded to him only those of his lower grade.

The Quarter Master's department should be required to supply as often as might be necessary each permanent Post and Arsenal with prescribed articles of mess furniture &c., say, tables, chairs, sideboards, closets and certain culinary utensils; provided the whole cost for each Post in any one year did not exceed the value of the rations per year of a Lieutenant, or \$292; these articles of furniture &c., to be accounted for as is other public property, and to be removed from one military station to another only on the order of the Quarter Master General pursuant to a requisition of the General in Chief. This supply, it will be observed, would not be an annual one, nor would it be incumbent that the whole sum allowed for its procurement should be appropriated in any one year—the articles would be procured only *when necessary*, and no necessity would authorize an expenditure of more than \$292 for each post. The last Army Register exhibits the names of sixty three permanent posts and arsenals, the outfit for which according to the foregoing suggestion, supposing \$292 expended on account of each, would cost \$18,396. No further appropriation would probably be required on this account for five years at least, at the end of which period the result to the Treasury would be as follows, viz:

Saved by the abandonment of the existing  
double ration system the yearly sum of \$20,513,  
in five years - - - \$102,565  
Expended for mess furniture &c. - 18,396

Balance in favor of the Treasury \$84,196, which sum, it will be presently shown, far exceeds the amount required to accomplish the third object of our project, viz: to grant an allowance to messes, through the Colonels of the respective regiments, on account of expenses in entertaining visitors to military posts. In endeavoring to determine what should be the extent of this allowance we feel sensibly the obstacles to our plans presented in the wide dispersion of our army. While on the one hand it is desirable to grant no more than an adequate sum to a regiment not at all, or but little, dispersed, it is essential, that the allowance to a regiment differently situated should be sufficiently large to give, after an equitable distribution, each mess an adequate portion of the public bounty. An official document lying before us exhibits the regiments of Artillery in the occupation of twenty three, and those of Infantry in the occupation of twenty one, Posts; giving to each of the former an average of nearly six, and to the latter of three, Posts. The Dragoons occupy three stations. As the Artillery is as much dispersed, and the Infantry and Dragoons as much concentrated, as they probably ever will be, the chances are in favor of a more equal distribution of the several arms of service. In taking therefore the present arrangement of the several regiments for our own basis in fixing the sum to be yearly allowed them severally, we will be able to show the greatest inequality that will probably ever exist. By what has already been stated, it seems the Infantry and Dragoons are about half as much dispersed as the Artillery; it will not be unfair then to take the division of the officers of the former into three messes, as the point of division between the maximum and minimum amount to be allowed to regiments by Government. With this prefatory explanation of our views on this point we propose, that there be allowed yearly to the Colonel or commanding officer of a regiment, the permanent stations of which are not more than three, for distribution among the messes of his regiment, a sum not exceeding the value of the yearly rations of a Lieutenant Colonel, or \$365; and to the Colonel or commanding officer of a regiment, the permanent stations of which exceed three, for a like distribution, a sum not exceeding the value of the yearly rations of a Colonel, or \$438. This allowance should be paid in due proportions as often as the troops are paid—should be immediately distributed by the Colonels to a caterer of messes, who should be made responsible by regulations that it be legitimately applied. The distribution by the Colonel should be an equitable one, having reference to the special circumstances of each mess and post of his regiment. The following statement will show



how the several regiments, as at present distributed, would be affected by our proposition, viz :

Dragoons	3	messes	\$365
1st Artillery	6	do.	438
2d do.	8	do.	438
3d do.	5	do.	438
4th do.	4	do.	438
1st Infantry	3	do.	365
2d do.	4	do.	438
3d do.	2	do.	365
4th do.	5	do.	438
5th do.	3	do.	365
6th do.	1	do.	365
7th do.	2	do.	365

By this exhibit it seems that \$4,818 would be the total yearly sum required for messes of Dragoon, Artillery and Infantry officers; but, if to this were added for the Corps of Engineers and Ordnance \$438 each, the whole yearly expenditure by Government on account of the third branch of our proposition would be \$5,694. The following recapitulation of items will show how, at the end of five years, the Treasury will be affected by the execution of our entire design.

Saved by the abandonment of the double ration system		\$102,565
Expended for mess furniture, &c.	\$18,396	
Bounty to messes, \$5,694 yearly	28,470	46,866

Balance in the Treasury \$55,699

In the foregoing estimate we have placed the Engineer Corps and that of Ordnance on a footing with regiments; this may not be entirely just, as the officers of those Corps are more dispersed than any others, and would seem to require therefore a larger contribution; and yet, on the other hand, it may be urged that that very dispersion will rarely enable them to mess together; and that, as the public aid is only designed for *bona fide* messes, those officers should fare like many others who, detached from their regiments, or belonging to the General Staff, must necessarily lose the advantages of a mess. The means, however, left in the Treasury by the adoption of our proposition would allow the Government to be liberal, and we should like to see those Corps provided for; so also would it be desirable that from the same ample resources a greater amount than we have asked as the *maximum* sum to be yearly allowed, should be granted to those regiments which garrison more than three Posts.

In the commencement of this article we stated that the existence of messes ought not to be entirely at the discretion of officers, seeing they were conducive to the public interests, but that they *should* exist, and that the Government, ought to a certain degree to control them. We will now state a few points, occurring to us at this moment, to which that control should extend. The general regulations of the army should require,

1st. Every Colonel or commanding officer of a regiment or Corps to encourage and promote the formation of amess, or messes, in his regiment or corps; reporting periodically to an Aid de Camp of the General in Chief, for the information of the General, what means he had adopted to advance such a measure—what difficulties, if any, attended it, &c.

2d. That the senior officer of any detachment of a regiment or corps should, under the supervision of his Colonel, in like manner encourage a mess within his command, making his reports on the points above stated to his Colonel. No more than one mess of a regiment at any one post.

3d. That commanding officers as aforesaid be responsible that money, furniture or supplies, furnished by Government for messes, be duly applied, and that no officers not actually messing together, and purposing *bona fide* to continue in a mess, shall receive the benefits of the aforesaid allowances, and that on no account said allowances ever be *divided* for the personal use of officers.

4th. Colonels to account for monies paid them for their regimental messes: accounts to be sent through an Aid of the General in Chief to the Treasury department. Caterers or senior officers of messes in like manner to account to Colonel.

5th. The Caterer at the end of every month to account to the Quarter Master of the post for furniture, cooking utensils, and fuel. The Quarter Master to make every quarter a separate return of such furniture, &c., to the Quarter Master General, stating what supplies are insufficient and what too large, if any.

6th. Furniture, &c., furnished by Government to be marked "U. S. Officers' Mess;" all articles, such as spoons, castors, knives and forks, silver tumblers (*every officer in a regiment ought to have one*) to be marked "—regiment mess," and these should as far as possible, although procured for different messes, provided they are of the same regiment, be of uniform pattern, so that on the concentration of the regiment there might be no variety of furniture. When required, the Quarter Master's department should furnish appropriate mess chests.

7th. Mess regulations to be made by the officers and approved by the Colonel should as far as possible be uniform throughout the regiment; *convenience* a main object, but that of the individual should be sacrificed for the *respectability*, even in appearance of the association. Officers should dine in undress coats, except on occasions when they agree to wear the full dress. Persons, even those professing to be gentlemen, differ sometimes on points of decorum; they should be settled by rules of the mess.

8th. On Government being informed of the officers of any regiment opposing the formation of messes in the spirit and with the views of the general regulations, but of seeking to establish such temporary and irresponsible associations as comport with their own notions of convenience, regardless of the public interests, then *all* mess allowances by law or regulations to be withheld from such officers.

9th. Inspectors General to enquire into, and report on the condition, &c., of messes.

We will now submit our project to the Army with this concluding remark, that we by no means think it without defects, although it strikes us as the most feasible of several plans which we have had under consideration, and that we shall be satisfied with its fate, should a discussion of its merits lead to the adoption of a proposition more practicable in its character and more beneficial in its results. We would invite officers to give their attention to this long neglected subject.\* Let meetings be called and the wishes of the officers of the army be made known to the War Department through the General in Chief. Activity and concert in the matter, respectfully manifested, may effect much good.

JANUARY, 1836.

PIKE,

\* It has not been our intention, in the course of our remarks, to ascribe a more hospitable disposition to *single* than to *married* officers, but to show peculiar reasons for that of the former being more frequently exposed to taxation than that of the latter. Married officers, *who do not receive double rations*, have strong motives to practise economy, and would consult it by encouraging messes; the tables of which would afford them facilities for entertaining many of their visitors in a style at once creditable, and economical.

[The foregoing communication came taxed with a postage of 75 cents. We mention this, as it appears to have been the intention of the writer to have paid it, —and we have no other method to apprise him of the omission. In several other instances, also, postage has not been paid, although manifestly intended by the word "paid" being written on the envelope. We would ask writers to be particular, when they design to pay postage, to see that it is marked *at the Post Office*.—F.n.]

## NEW INFANTRY TACTICS.

## No. III.

I shall now proceed with the Report of the French Commission, turning aside, if possible, from the Clair-faits and Young Fograms—those croakers, produced under “the green mantle” “of a calm world, and a long peace,” who, on this subject, have wifled away an entire spring and summer of the Army and Navy Chronicle.

“TITLE II, PART 2, LES. 2.—*Manual of Arms.*”

“The rules prescribed in the Ordinance [of 1791] for teaching this lesson, are excellent, having the advantage of preparing the recruit to enter the battalion in the shortest possible time. It was yet, however, to be desired that this instruction should begin with the *times* [pauses, motions] of the manual which are the easiest. The Commission has made this change, and among the times which the soldier ought to be taught, before loading, there are several which have the advantage of preparing him for that more difficult part of the exercise.

“According to the Ordinance the men in all cases who fire standing, have, in order to come to the *aim*, to lower the piece suddenly, and to slip the left hand upon it to the tail-band. This movement has the tendency to drop the muzzle too low, and consequently to cause the fire to be delivered too low. We have, therefore, changed it. The soldier will now, after cocking, and before taking aim, let his piece slip through the left hand to the tail band; in this way, the hand, already grasping the piece at the place where it is to remain (when the butt is brought to the shoulder in taking aim) the muzzle is less liable to be dropped too low.

“We have added to the manual a new *time*—that of shifting arms to the right shoulder. This position is to be taken in the march by the front instead of the *support arms*. Two advantages result from the change: each man occupies, in his rank, about the same space as at the *carry*, and he is more relieved, because the arm that habitually bears the piece, is left, for the period, perfectly free.

“The Ordinance is silent as to the cadence to be observed in the manual of arms, which it is necessary to fix; for in many regiments it has become so slow that the men can scarcely fire twice in a minute. This cadence we have established at the ninetieth part of the minute, as it had previously been by the minister’s circular of May 17, 1822.”

This circular, it may be observed, was the only official alteration made in Guibert’s Book in forty years, and it was never, till 1831, incorporated with his text.

The word *time*, is used above, in a sense not familiar to those who are unacquainted with the sword-exercise, or the *Salle d’Eserime*. It has been adopted in the new Tactics, and, from a like necessity, in the *British Manual and Platoon Exercise*.

“Lesson 3. *Loading in quick time.*”

“This denomination expressing neither the object of the lesson, nor the manner of executing it, the head has been changed to—*load in four times.*”

The American Book of 1825, has in this lesson, the subordinate head of *loading in the quickest time*. In the new Tactics, with a view to harmony, *charge à volonté* is translated to *load at will*.

“PART III, LES. 2.—*The march by the front.*”

“The Ordinance does not permit the oblique march in quick time. This movement, however, being of great utility in the battalion manœuvres, which, according to this revision, ought to be made in the quick step, and the oblique march being susceptible of execution with as much regularity in quick time as in common, we have prescribed that troops shall be exercised in marching obliquely in quick time.

“LES. 4.—*Wheels in marching.*”

“The Commission has made a slight change in the principles of this movement. The pivot man is to take steps *one third*, instead of a *fourth*, of the full pace, because, the three ranks, with knapsacks on, having a depth of little more than six feet [American]—and the

rules for all the manœuvres are established on this supposition—the wheeling point cannot be cleared, in time, without that extension.”

The change, here noticed, is indispensable to three ranks, and of no sort of injury to a formation in two.

Under this fourth lesson, in the new American Tactics, No. 382, the words “if in a single rank” are inserted, in order to place the principle there laid down in harmony with Nos. 614 and 665. In this way a discrepancy is overcome which exists, at least in terms, in the French Books of 1791 and 1831, and in ours of 1815 and 1825.

“*To stack arms.*”

“We have placed at the end of the School of the Soldier an instruction for stacking and resuming arms. It is proper that each should be executed in the same manner by all the regiments.”

There is nothing in the French Book of 1791 on this subject. The omission was supplied in our Books of 1815 and 1825; but the manner adopted from the French Book of 1831, is preferable for two ranks, and also applies to three.

In the French Books of 1791 and 1831, as in ours of 1815 and 1835, not a word is said of the *balance step*, the *side step*, or the *step short*. Neither of these steps belongs to the system. They were interpolated in our Book of 1825, and on reflection, will be acknowledged by all to be wholly useless as specific heads of instruction.

## “TITLE III.—SCHOOL OF THE COMPANY.”

LES. II, Art. 4.—*The fire of two ranks (or by file.)*

“The progression established by the Ordinance for the commencement of this fire is much too slow. Experiments made with the greatest care at the camp of Saint-Omer demonstrated that the front-right-hand-man of a company, consisting of twenty files, had fired five rounds at the moment the man on the opposite flank had fired the first time. This progression we have changed; the front rank man of every file takes aim the instant that his right-hand-neighbour draws back his piece to reload; in this way, number one fires the second time when number fourteen fires the first, and thus the greatest vivacity is promptly given to the fire of the whole front.

“The Ordinance prescribes that the captain shall place himself, pending this fire, opposite to his interval, one pace behind the rear rank. We have changed his position to four paces behind the centre of the company, in order that he may the better superintend the firing of his men.”

In the American Book of 1825, although it is said in the School of the Soldier, No. 312, that the second “file will aim at the instant when the first has fired,” yet, in the School of the Company, same Book, No. 495, where the rule is laid down more formally, we have “the next file will aim at the instant the first, which has just fired, *primes.*” This is liable to all the censure contained in the Report.

This particular mode of firing (the most used in battle) is called in the new Tactics, in the alternative, *the fire of two ranks or by file*, according as the formation may be in three or two ranks. If in three, the first command is—*fire by two ranks*, as a double advertisement that the front rank is not to kneel, and that the rear is not to fire. The formation being in two ranks, the caution is simply—*fire by file*, as in the Book of 1825. Can any but *groggnards* pretend to say that this is “a distinction without a difference?”

“ART. 5. *To fire by the rear rank.*”

“We have substituted this denomination for the old one—to *fire to the rear*. The change is made in order to put the school of the company in harmony with that of the Battalion, in which we have given rules for *manœuvring by the rear rank*.

“LES. III, ART. 4. (No. 560.) *Remarks on quick time.*”

“The swiftness of this step remains fixed at 100 per minute, but we have thought that, under particular circumstances, it may be carried to 130 instead of 120, the number of steps fixed by the Ordinance.”



In the American Book of 1825, those numbers were fixed at 120 and 150, respectively; but experience having shown those rates to be too high, they are, by the new Tactics, reduced to 110 and 140, and the latter number of steps made the *double* quick time of Skirmishers, which by the run, may again be much accelerated.

#### "LESSON VI.

"The commission has changed the order in which the articles of this lesson are given in the Ordinance. The third, which comprehends the movement of breaking and forming company by platoon, in march, is made the first, because, this movement being applicable to the column in route, it ought to precede the article that treats of this column."

In the American Book of 1825, a farther diminution of column, by section, was introduced, but there was no such movement in the French Ordinance of 1791, nor in our Book of 1815. In the new French Book, and in our new Tactics, this movement will be found under the head—*column in route*, and in this place only is it wanted.

#### "ART. 2. Diminishing and increasing front by file, &c.

"This movement being only applicable to the column in route, we have prescribed that files should be broken off solely from the side of the guide, in order that the commander may, at any time, cause the company to pass from the march by the front, to the march by the flank."

Precisely for the reason here stated, the same change was introduced into the American Book of 1825, and by the same hand recently employed upon our new Tactics.

#### "ART. 2. To march the column in route, &c.

"As this article may be considered the element of the column in route of the school of the Battalion, the Commission has thought it necessary to give it more extension than it had in the Ordinance, and hence it has been entirely re-constructed upon the following principles:

"1st. The column marches habitually by company;  
"2nd. The width of way becoming insufficient, the company breaks by platoon;

"3d. The column, marching by platoon, when the way again becomes too narrow, platoons break into sections, if the companies are of twenty files or more; if of less than twenty files, the platoons are reduced to a front of seven by breaking of files;

"4th. The way becoming still narrower, the column resumes the cadenced pace, when files are broken off till the front is diminished to five;

"5th. Finally, the defile becoming too narrow for five men abreast, exclusive of the chief of subdivision, the march by the flank is assumed."

These principles are carried out both in the school of the company and that of the battalion, of the new French Book, and also in our new Tactics. In the latter, the details for the two-rank-formation are, under this head, as in all other places, given. The minute changes, all of which, it is believed, are for the better, are numerous. Of these, two only need to be here noticed:—1. Arms are borne *at will*, at the commands *route step—march*, without any further command; and 2. The ranks open out to twenty-eight inches, (American) only, which the Report states, upon experiment, to be found "sufficient to enable the men to march at will and without constraint."

#### "ART. 4. Countermarch.

"We have made a slight change under this head; the two guides face about; the captain conducts the leading file, and when he aligns the company, he takes care to include it between the two guides.

"This movement has, over that of the Ordinance, the advantage of giving the means of replacing the company on the same alignment.

#### "ART. 5.

"The Ordinance prescribes the establishment of the line of battle at *four paces*, at least, from the flank of the column which we have extended to *ten*, because, the subdivisions have [in three ranks] with the file closers, a depth of about ten feet six inches [American,] and as

they are to be halted at three paces from the line of battle, there would only be two paces between the file closers and the files of the subdivisions in march."

In our new Tactics that distance is either ten, or nine paces, according as the formation may be in three, or two ranks.

#### "General Remarks on the School of the Company.

"The commission has prescribed that the third lesson shall only be executed with arms *carried*, because, this position being the only one that can lead recruits to march correctly in line, it is necessary they should be early habituated to it. In the march in column, we may, to avoid fatigue, cause arms to be shifted to the right shoulder, and in the march by the flank cause them to be supported. The latter we reject, in the march by the front, because, each man, occupying less space, [by about two inches] than with his piece *carried*, and still maintaining the touch of the elbow, the line becomes so much closed, at halting, or on returning to the carry. This inconvenience, slight in a subdivision of but two files, becomes in a battalion in line, immense, sufficient indeed to destroy the regularity of the march."—See, on this subject, in our new Tactics, No. 767, and page 186, volume second.

#### "From three ranks to form two, and reciprocally.

"We have placed at the end of the School of the Company, [at the beginning in the new American Book] this movement, the utility of which has been demonstrated in our remarks on Title I.

#### "Being in three or two ranks, to form one.

"This movement is of but little use except for inspections in detail. It is proper that it should be executed in the same manner in all the regiments.

#### "Instruction for target-firing.

"In this, which the Commission has substituted for that of the Ordinance, nothing is said in detail, of the theory of firing, because its principles have been developed in the instruction drawn up by the Artillery Board, to which it has been thought best to refer.

A similar instruction should be prepared by our Board of Ordnance for the use of the American Infantry.

#### "Instruction for the drum-major.

"The beats have come down to our time only by tradition, and some of them have become so altered that they cannot be recognised. In order to fix them in an invariable manner, the Commission has caused them to be written by means of conventional signs at once simple and intelligible."

A similar course has been pursued in the new American Book.

"The number of beats has been fixed at twenty, of which, fifteen are for the exercises and interior service, and five new ones for the movements of skirmishers.

"The number of bugle or cornet sounds, has been reduced to twenty-six—fifteen of which correspond with the beats for exercises and interior service, and the others are for the movements of skirmishers."

In the new American Book, the whole number of beats, given, is nineteen, and the sounds twenty-two, and eleven of each are applied to the movements of skirmishers.

HINDMAN.

#### SOUTH SEA EXPLORING EXPEDITION.

A friend has forwarded to us from Washington the following memorial of our enterprising citizen voyager, which, he observes, was early in the session presented by the Chair to the United States Senate, and also, by a distinguished member, to the House of Representatives, and referred to the appropriate committee which, for the information of our fellow citizens, we insert with pleasure; and it is sincerely to be hoped that Congress will this session authorise this very laudable national expedition, to the support of this valuable whale and seal fishery, as also, in aid, and to the advancement of navigation, com-

merce, science, &c., for we learn that even the important American discovery of the continent of Palmer's Land, to the South of Cape Horn, remains yet unexplored and unexamined, and who can tell what this extensive land can, or will afford, when examined, to American enterprise, of rich furs, oils, &c. &c. As yet, it appears, by what we can collect, that its coast has only now and then, and at but very few places, been visited occasionally by the South Sea Sealers (with also, the short visit at one bay only, by his B. M. ship Chanticleer, on a scientific errand.) These South Sea sealing vessels, whose fit out and business will not permit them to lose the time for exploration and discovery for the nation's benefit, of course, cannot attend to that service, neither are they prepared for it. It is therefore earnestly desired that Congress will, at an early day, authorise this meritorious national enterprise for the good of all, as well as our adventuring citizens, and also as a new service and school under one of its able commanders for the worthy rising talent in our gallant Navy. Now that we have a surplus in the national Treasury, the means can be appropriated without the least inconvenience. Therefore, we should think, every patriotic citizen favorable to navigation, commerce, the fisheries, and science, having a friend in Congress (in the Senate or House) would readily use his influence with him to effect this much needed and very commendable national measure. We have been for more than thirty years personally acquainted with the memorialist, and have conclusive evidence of his extensive information relative to the subject of his petition, and thereby hope our brother editors on every side, throughout the Union, will have the liberality to give this laudable memorial an insertion, it being a national project, and having nothing to do with politics. —*New York Mercantile Advertiser.*

#### MEMORIAL OF EDMUND FANNING.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled—

Your petitioner, Edmund Fanning, respectfully asketh leave to submit the following—and to state that by the great increase in the number of vessels now out, and fitting out from the ports of the United States employed in the South Sea, and Pacific Whale and Seal Fisheries, it has now become highly important, and a more pressing necessary measure to the future successful pursuit of said fishery, that a national exploring and discovery expedition should be by Government early sent out to those seas; particularly to search out, ascertain, and mark down on the charts, and promulgate for the general good, those now unknown places confidently believed to be in existence, and of course yet undisturbed resorts of those fishes and animals, which would most certainly aid, support, and advance this valuable and highly creditable business, which now occupies so much of the means and services of our enterprising citizens. (It is evident that the British Greenland Whale and Seal fishery, would have long ere this ceased, had it not been for Captains Ross and Parry's exploring research, which discovered extensive new grounds and places of their resort)—and, which national expedition evidently must, and all will admit, would also greatly benefit navigation, commerce, &c. &c. (For particulars in evidence, in the great want and necessity of it, with the national advantages and benefits to be obtained by such an expedition, your petitioner begs most respectfully to refer to his former memorials on file with your honorable Naval Committee.) Your petitioner, therefore, with all deference, humbly prayeth that your honorable body will be pleased to take this important national subject into consideration, and, if in its wisdom, the measure should be deemed expedient and worthy of trial, to the honor and benefit of the nation,—then to be pleased to authorise said national exploring, surveying and discovery expedition, with an appropriation of the necessary means to carry the same into effect, by an exploration of those unexplored parts of our globe. And your petitioner as in honor and duty bound will ever pray.

EDMUND FANNING.

December 6th, 1835.

### PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS, IN RELATION TO THE ARMY, NAVY, &c.

#### LAW OF THE UNITED STATES.

AN ACT making an appropriation for repressing hostilities commenced by the Seminole Indians.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars be and the same hereby is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expenses attending the suppression of hostilities with the Seminole Indians in Florida, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, conformably to the provisions of the act of April fifth, eighteen hundred and thirty-two, making appropriations for the support of the Army.

JAMES K. POLK,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

M. VAN BUREN,

Vice President of the United States and

President of the Senate.

APPROVED 14th of January, 1836

ANDREW JACKSON.

#### IN SENATE.

THURSDAY, Jan. 14, 1836.

#### NATIONAL DEFENCE.

The Senate took up Mr. BENTON's resolution to appropriate the surplus revenues for purposes of National Defence; which was discussed by Messrs. EWING, GOLDSBOROUGH, BENTON, WEBSTER, and CUTHBERT.

MONDAY, Jan. 18.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. LINN, *Resolved,* That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the improvement of the navigation of the Mississippi river, from the mouth of the Des Moines river, in the Territory of Michigan, to Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, in said Territory.

Mr. SOUTHARD, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill making an appropriation for deepening the harbor of Pensacola and for constructing a dry dock at that place, which was read and ordered to a second reading.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20.

The resolution submitted by Mr. BENTON for appropriating the surplus revenue to permanent objects of national defence, was taken up as the order of the day; and after some remarks at length from Messrs. CUTHBERT and HUBBARD, the resolution was laid upon the table.

THURSDAY, Jan. 21.

Mr. TALLMADGE presented the petition of Commodore Woolsey, which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. TYLER presented the petition of Charles D. Brodie, praying to be compensated for his invention for the repair of vessels injured by worms, which has been used for several years past in the public service. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. McKEAN from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill regulating the pay of officers of the Marine Corps, which was read and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. BENTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred the resolution of the Senate, directing that Committee to inquire into the expediency of constructing floating steam batteries for the public service, reported a bill appropriating 660,000 dollars for that object, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, which was read and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. BENTON, from the same Committee, reported a bill making an appropriation for opening a military road from Fort Leavenworth to the River des Moines, which was read and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. BENTON, from the same Committee, reported without amendment the bill providing for the increase of the Corps of United States Engineers.

Mr. BENTON offered the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of an appropriation to pay a company of Volunteers, commanded by Captain Daniel Siglor, of the State of Indiana, for services rendered the United States, against the hostile Indians in the year 1832.

On motion of Mr. HUBBARD,

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the resolution introduced by Mr. BENTON for appropriating the surplus revenue to purposes of national defence.



Mr. HUBBARD continued his remarks begun yesterday, and when he concluded,

Mr. GOLDSBOROUGH withdrew the amendment submitted by him, after which,

Mr. GRUNDY moved to modify the resolution by making it read "that so much of the surplus revenue as may be necessary shall be appropriated," &c.

This modification being accepted by Mr. BENTON, Mr. EWING proposed that the subject be laid on the table, and that the resolution as modified be printed.

Mr. WHITE suggested that the best course would be to postpone the resolution until the next day of the Senate's session, (Monday,) and that the printing be also ordered. Mr. W. made a motion to that effect, which was carried; and—On motion of Mr. PORTER,

The Senate adjourned over to Monday next.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15.

Mr. MILLIGAN, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of John S. Develin, which was read twice and committed.

#### WEST POINT ACADEMY.

The House resumed the consideration of the resolution, submitted by Mr. HAWES on the 7th instant.

The question pending was the amendment of Mr. WARDWELL, proposing to substitute the Committee on Military Affairs for a Select Committee.

Mr. MANN of N. Y. and Mr. PIERCE of N. H. addressed the house for a short time, but the latter without concluding, gave way to a call for the orders of the day.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. PIERCE, of New Hampshire, in the chair, upon the following bills:

A bill for the relief of Lieutenant Washington Seawell; which was reported to the House, and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-morrow.

A bill for the relief of Commodore John Downes; The consideration of this bill, after a few remarks by Messrs. PARKER and GRENNELL, was postponed; and the Committee asked, and obtained leave to sit again.

MONDAY, JANUARY 18.

On motion of Mr. CLAIBORNE, of Mississippi, Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing an Arsenal at Vicksburg, in the State of Mississippi.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19.

Mr. JARVIS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of the widows and orphans of the officers, seamen, and marines of the United States schooner Wild Cat; which was read twice and committed.

Mr. JOHNSON of Kentucky, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to authorize the appointment of additional paymasters; which was read twice and committed.

Mr. JARVIS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made unfavorable reports upon various petitions; which were laid on the table.

Mr. JUDSON, from the select committee appointed on the subject, made a report, accompanied by the following Joint Resolution, which was read twice:

Resolved by the Senate, and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the Governor of the State of Connecticut be, and he is hereby authorized to employ some suitable person to erect a monument, with appropriate inscriptions, within the public cemetery in the town of Coventry, Connecticut, commemorating the services and death of Capt. NATHAN HALE, in the war of the revolution: Provided the expense thereof shall not exceed the sum of one thousand dollars.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20.

Mr. PINCKNEY from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill making an appropriation for a Marine Hospital in or near Wilmington in the State of North Carolina, which was read twice and committed.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Ky., from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill making appropriations for the collection of information, and the commencement of certain fortifications, and for other purposes.

Mr. J. stated, that this bill was intended by the committee as a substitute for the one heretofore reported of a similar character.

The bill was read twice and committed.

Mr. GRAYSON, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill to establish a Navy Yard in the Harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, which was read twice and committed.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

FROM PAPERS RECEIVED AT THIS OFFICE.

**BELGIAN ARMY.**—It is stated to be in contemplation to grant letters of naturalization to several military and civil officers in the service of Belgium, born in foreign countries. The question of dismissal of the French officers in the Belgian army continues to be agitated, many more lithographic letters having been addressed to the native officers, in which arguments are adduced to show the necessity of the measure. A decree of the Minister of War has decided that the furloughs of the men belonging to the regiments of infantry absent on leave till the 1st of November, shall be prolonged till the 1st of March, next year.

**FRENCH NAVY.**—Notwithstanding the numerous promotions lately made in the French navy, there are still, in consequence of its many recent losses, the following vacancies:—21 Lieutenants of ships of the line; 13 Captains of sloops; 7 Captains of frigates; 5 Captains of ships of the line; 3 Rear-Admirals; and 1 Vice-Admiral.

**CULTIVATION OF LITERATURE BY THE ARMY.**—It is a fact highly honorable to the military profession, but not generally known, that in 1603 the English army in Ireland subscribed 1,800*l.* towards the purchase of a library for Trinity College, Dublin. Nor is this the only instance of such generosity, for after the death of Archbishop Usher, in 1656, the army in Ireland purchased his valuable collection of books and MSS., in order to present them to the college, and though several obstacles intervened, the munificent donation was finally confirmed by Charles II.

**RUSSIAN AND PRUSSIAN SOLDIERS.**—The *Leipsic Gazette* of the 19th inst. has the following from Berlin of the 16th:—"The guards are returned from Kalisch, and the object of fraternising the Prussian and Russian troops has entirely failed. The principle of honor which exists in the young Prussian army, and the abolition of all corporal and degrading punishments, have raised in the breast of the Prussian soldier a painful sentiment of indignation at the sight of the semi-barbarian laws which rule the Russian army. The Russians are, on the other hand, not anxious to fraternise with their new comrades. Moreover, the Russian soldiers were forbidden to go into the Prussian camp."

**DRUNKENNESS.**—An officer of high rank states, that in the West Indies, almost entirely from rum, 450 men out of 1,000 of his regiment were buried in four months, in 1801. Captain Hart Davies, in twenty years' service, does not recollect three cases of crime in the army not originating in drunkenness, which certainly gives rise to ninety-nine out of every hundred punishments.

By the death, at Geneva, of Lieut. Colonel the Hon. Sir Charles Gordon, brother of Lord Aberdeen, and Lieut. Colonel of the 42d Highlanders, promotion was opened to a Major of 33 years, a Captain of 26 years, and a Lieut. of 20 years' standing, in his Majesty's service.

A Corsican paper announces that a column of granite surmounted by a statue of Napoleon, of the heroic size, is about to be erected at Ajaccio, the birth-place of Bonaparte.

**BRITISH IN SPAIN.**—The following is a statement of the British Auxiliary in Spain, to the 16th of November. 5 Brigadier Generals, 5 Brigade Majors, 41 Field Officers, 94 Captains, 184 Subalterns, 67 Staff, 18 Cadets, 157 Drums, 412 Sergeants, 7,161 Rank and File, 653 Cavalry.

## ARMY.

## HEAD QUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

**ORDER, }** ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
No. 7. } Washington, Jan. 21, 1836.

The Commanding Officers of the companies at Forts Johnston and Macon, in North Carolina, and at Savannah and Augusta Arsenal, in Georgia, will proceed forthwith to Picolata, Florida, with the effective force of their respective companies, leaving only the Ordnance Sergeants and invalids. The Medical officers of the army, at the above posts, will accompany their respective garrisons.

The detachment of Dragoon recruits at New York, and the detachment of recruits for the Artillery and Infantry at the same place, will proceed to Picolata, Florida; the former under the command of Captain Wharton of Dragoons; the latter under the command of Lieutenant Herring, of the 3d Artillery. Lieutenants Simonton and Wheelock of Dragoons, and Lieutenant Beall of the 1st Infantry, are assigned to the command of Captain Wharton; and Lieutenant Poole of the 3d, and Lieutenant Humphreys of the 2d artillery, are assigned to the command of Lieutenant Herring.

The following officers are relieved from the duty to which they are now assigned, and will forthwith repair to Picolata, Florida, on their way to join their respective companies:

2d Lt. Morris, of the 1st Artillery,	Company C.
1st Lt. Chambers, 2d "	" G.
1st Lt. Dancy, 2d "	" D.
2d Lt. Burnett, 2d "	" F.
2d Lt. Stockton, 2d "	" A.
2d Lt. Fuller, 2d "	" G.
2d Lt. Ward, 2d "	" G.
2d Lt. Linnard, 2d "	" H.
1st Lt. Burk, 3d "	" H.

Assistant Surgeons Myers, Suter, and Cayler will repair without delay to Florida and report to the officer in command.

Assistant Surgeon Worrel will repair to New York with out delay, and there await the orders of the Surgeon General.

Major General Scott will repair to Florida, and take command of the troops operating against the Indians in that quarter. Besides his personal Staff, he will be joined by Captain Canfield, of the Topographical Engineers, Lieutenant Van Buren, Aide de Camp, and Lieutenant Johnson, of the 4th Artillery.

The Commanding officer of Fort Monroe will send two officers from his command, one to Fort Macon, the other to Fort Johnston in North Carolina, to take charge of those posts during the absence of their respective garrisons.

The Chiefs of the Staff Departments will make the necessary arrangements for the transportation and supplies for the troops destined for Florida.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR GEN. MACOMB,  
ROGER JONES,  
Adjutant General.

**GEN. ORDER, }** ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
No. 9. } Washington, Jan 25, 1836.

I. The 6th regiment of Infantry, will be prepared to move from Jefferson Barracks, to Fort Jesup, Louisiana, as soon as the season and navigation will permit. Brevet Brig. Gen. H. Atkinson will see to the execution of this order, as to the time of departure of the regiment, but will remain at Jefferson Barracks, and continue in his present command. Surgeon Finlay, and Assistant Surgeon Hughey, will proceed with the regiment to Fort Jesup.

II. Major A. R. Thompson, now of the 6th Infantry, and Capt. J. Rogers, of the same regiment, will be relieved from the Recruiting service, and join their regiment, with all the disposable unattached recruits.

III. Capt. H. Smith, Lieutenants Gady, Freeman, and Williams, on Engineer service, and Lieutenant Drayton, on Topographical duty, all of the 6th Infantry, will forthwith be relieved, and join their regiments.

IV. Fort Armstrong will be evacuated as early as practicable, and the garrison, commanded by Lieut. Col. Davenport, of the 1st Infantry, will be transferred to Fort Snelling, St. Peters, except one officer, one non-commissioned officer and ten men, to take charge of the public property at that post till it be disposed of. Assistant Surgeon Emerson, will proceed with the command to Fort Snelling.

V. The companies of the 1st regiment of Artillery, respectively, stationed at Forts Severn and Washington, and the Washington Arsenal, will immediately proceed to Fort Monroe, and thence, without delay, to join the army in Florida, via Savannah, and the St. John's river. The battalion will be commanded by Major Gates. The following officers of the regiment, on detached service, will forthwith be relieved, and join their respective companies, for active service, without delay; 1st Lieuts. A. D. Mackay and E. S. Sibley, from Engineer, and 2d Lieut. D. E. Hale, from Ordnance duty. Assistant Surgeon Hawkins, will accompany the battalion of Artillery, under Major Gates, to Fort King, and then proceed to comply with his previous orders.

VI. Major N. S. Clarke, now of the 2d Infantry, will assume command at Hancock Barracks; and Brevet Major Dearborn, with companies F and K, will proceed to Boston harbor, and garrison Fort Independence. The quarters will forthwith be cleared, and be prepared for the accommodation of the troops, by the proper departments, and when ready, the commanding Engineer at Boston, will notify Major Dearborn, accordingly.

VII. The officers of the proper departments will furnish the necessary transportation, supplies, and all facilities for the execution of this order.

VIII. Capt. G. W. Allen, 4th Infantry, now on Recruiting service, will repair to New Port, Kentucky, there relieve Major Thompson, and assume the duties of Superintendent in the Western Department. Lieut. Barry, of the 1st regiment Artillery, is assigned to duty at New Port, Kentucky.

BY ORDER OF ALEXANDER MACOMB,  
MAJOR GENERAL COMMANDING IN CHIEF:  
ROGER JONES,  
Adjutant General.

Jan. 20.—Colonel Cutler, Supt. Eastern Recruiting depot, ordered to detach 60 recruits to supply the troops in Florida.

Jan. 22.—2d Lieut. R. T. P. Allen, 1st Arty., and 2d Lieut. J. E. Henderson, 2d Arty., relieved from Topographical duty, and ordered to join their companies, in Florida.

Bvt. Major B. K. Pierce, 4th Arty., with his company, will repair to Fort Mifflin, on the Delaware, and assume the command of that post.

## NAVY.

*List of Officers ordered to the ship Concord, fitting for sea at Portsmouth, N. H.*

M. P. Mix, Commander.

Lieutenants—H. A. Adams, W. L. Howard, T. J. Leib, F. B. Ellison, C. H. Duryee.

Passed Asst. Surgeon—M. Coulter. Assistant Surgeon, T. A. Parsons. Purser, N. Wilson. Acting Master, J. P. McKinstry.

Passed Midshipmen—L. J. Bryan, E. C. Bowers, F. Bartlett, A. A. Holcomb,

Midshipmen—J. B. Weed, A. B. Davis, F. Stanly, S. D. Trenchard, W. M. Caldwell, T. M. Mix, H. T. Wingate, W. L. Parkinson, W. P. Bradburn, J. O'Shannessy, T. B. Barrett, H. Tillotson.

Acting Boatswain—J. Shannon. Gunner, Wm. McNally. Carpenter, J. Dibble. Sailmaker, J. Beggs.

The Frigate Constellation, Commodore Dallas, and ship St. Louis, Capt. Rousseau, arrived at Havana on the 5th inst., from St. Jago, and Trinidad de Cuba; all well.

Schr. Shark, Lieut. Commanding Ridgeway, touched at Milo Point, Nov. 17, and sailed for Smyrna.

## RESIGNATION.

Passed Midshipman J. C. Graham, 21st Jan. 1836.

## DEATHS.

On the 21st November last, near Louisville, Ky., in the 23d year of his age, JOHN L. WATSON, late a Lieutenant of the U. S. Dragoons.

At his residence near Morristown, N. J. Captain WILLIAM TUTTLE, aged 77, having entered the service at the early age of 18, and continued one of its brave defenders until peace was proclaimed.



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# ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE ADVERTISER.

## PROSPECTUS OF THE ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE, (New Series.)

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, PUBLISHED AT THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, IN THE OCTAVO FORM, (AFTER THE MANNER OF NILES' REGISTER,) ON FINE SUPER-ROYAL PAPER, AT FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE. FIVE COPIES WILL BE FURNISHED FOR TWENTY DOLLARS, IF REMITTED TO THE PUBLISHER.

THE CHRONICLE is intended to be a record of the current events of the day, concerning the Army, Navy, Militia, and Revenue Cutter Service. The changes that take place in the stations of officers—the movements of troops—the operations of our vessels of war and revenue cutters—appointments, resignations, dismissals, marriages and deaths, will be carefully noted. All who have friends in either branch of the service, can obtain, by means of the Chronicle, regular information respecting them.

To the officers themselves the CHRONICLE will be valuable for exhibiting in a condensed form the proceedings of Congress, the Reports of Committees, Bills Reported, Laws Passed, and other official documents, all of which affect them immediately or remotely.

The present posture of affairs must give increased importance to our military operations, both on the land and on the water.

For the convenience of Public Libraries, Associations, and others, who wish the CHRONICLE in a form better suited for preservation than loose sheets, the numbers will be stitched in monthly parts, with a colored cover.

All communications must be post paid, except those containing remittances.

B. HOMANS,  
Editor and Publisher.

Washington, D. C., January, 1836.

### ADVERTISING.

As the ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE has a general circulation in both services, and an increasing one among citizens, it presents a favorable medium for advertisements, which will be inserted on reasonable terms.

Once a month at least, and oftener if the encouragement be adequate, a colored cover will be furnished. Advertisements of Professional Works,—Mathematical, Nautical, and Surveying Instruments—Officers Clothing and Equipments—Sea Stores—and all articles that may be useful to the Soldier or Sailor, are respectfully solicited.

E. OWEN,

MERCHANT TAILOR, near the Seven Buildings, and also a few doors west of Fuller's Hotel, WASHINGTON CITY,

BEGS leave most respectfully to inform his NAVAL and MILITARY friends, and the PUBLIC in general, that he has just received a very large supply of fashionable WINTER GOODS, consisting of

WOOLLEN CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, VESTINGS, &c.

Which for quality and lowness of prices, he feels confident, will be found to be equal to any in the United States.

E. O. would respectfully solicit the attention of gentlemen belonging to the ARMY AND NAVY, to his superior mode of fitting uniforms, which, for material and workmanship, cannot be surpassed by any house in the Union. He has constantly on hand a large assortment of articles, as used in the dress of both services, and which he is determined to sell at a lower rate than the same articles can be procured for, in any of the Atlantic cities. He has also just received a quantity of GREEN CLOTH peculiarly adapted to the dress of the Marine Corps, (a very rare article,) to which he would invite the particular attention of such gentlemen, who belong to that corps, as it will be found to be a very superior article.

All orders received from distant parts of the country (containing a draft or suitable reference) will be as punctually attended to, as though the party ordering were present, and will be forwarded with the strictest care.

E. O. embraces the present opportunity, of tendering his sincere acknowledgments to those gentlemen who have already favored him with their commands, and humbly solicits a continuation of those favors, for which he will ever feel grateful.

Jan. 7—1f

## AGENTS FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

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The Pursers of vessels of war, or of the stations, and Paymasters of the Army, who are willing to act, are also authorised Agents.

Where two or more subscribers are attached to the same vessel or station, or reside at the same place, it would save trouble and expense, if they would unite their remittances.

Remittances may be made at the risk and expense of the publisher.

### CHAIN CABLE IRON.

NAVY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, }  
21st January, 1836. }

PROPOSALS, sealed, and endorsed "Proposals for Chain Cable Iron," will be received at this office until three o'clock, P. M. of the fifteenth day of February next, for furnishing and delivering at the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., the following quantities and descriptions of CHAIN CABLE IRON, viz:

- 18,360 links of 2 1-8 inches diameter, 26 inches each, in length.
- 20,340 links 1 15-16 inches diameter, 23 inches each, in length.
- 324 end links, 2 1-4 inches diameter, 27 inches each, in length.
- 324 end links, 2 1-16 inches diameter, 26 inches each, in length.
- 18 Anchor Shackles—126 Connecting Shackles—36 Swivel Pieces—18 Box Pieces for the two and eighth inches Chain Cables.
- 18 Anchor Shackles—126 Connecting Shackles—36 Swivel Pieces—18 Box Pieces for the one and fifteen-sixteenth inches Chain Cables.
- 27 feet, of 4 1-4 by 3 3-4 inches oval, Pin Iron, in lengths 1 foot 6 inches.
- 90 do. 3 1 4 by 2 3-4 do. do. do. do. 5 feet.
- 24 do. 3 3-4 by 3 1-4 do. do. do. do. 1 ft. 4 in.
- 90 do. 3 by 2 1-2 do. do. do. do. 5 feet.

Models and drawings, showing the shapes and dimensions of the iron required for Shackles, Swivels, Boxes, and Pin Iron, will be furnished, upon application to the commanding officer of the Navy Yard, Washington. All the said iron must be of American manufacture, without any admixture of foreign iron—must be of the best quality, and manufactured from hammered bar iron, to be cut, filed, and rolled to about two inches in diameter, then cut, filed, and rolled again to the required sizes; satisfactory proof of all which must be given by the contractor to the said commanding officer. The iron required for Shackles, Swivels, and Box Pieces, and the oval Pin Iron, must be hammered to the respective shapes, and sizes or dimensions.

The whole of the said iron must be free from flaws, raw and jagged ends, and all other defects; and must be delivered in straight lengths. On delivery, it will be inspected, tested, and proved, under the instructions of the commanding officer of the Navy Yard at Washington, to determine whether it is all of proper quality, and corresponds in all other respects to the terms, stipulations, and conditions of the contract to be made.

One-third of each size and description of the said chain cable iron must be delivered on or before the tenth day of April next, one-third on or before the first day of June next, and the remainder on or before the fifteenth day of July next.

Ten per centum will be withheld from the amount of all payments, on account of the contract to be made, as collateral security, in addition to a bond, in the amount of one-third of the contract, to be given to secure its performance; and will not, in any event, be paid, unless the contract shall be complied with in all respects.

Jan. 25—3t